
Muhyo & Roji's
Bureau of Supernatural Investigation
BSI
SHONEN JUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Yoshiyuki Nishi
volume 14



This is the park where I often played as a child. I took this photo on a (literal) trip down memory lane. About once a year, I think back on the places where I grew up and get all sentimental. I picture the three Cortlaw children daydreaming like this... which led to this volume's cover. Hope you like it.

– Yoshiyuki Nishi

Yoshiyuki Nishi was born in Tokyo. Two of his favorite manga series are *Dragon Ball* and the robot-cat comedy *Doraemon*. His latest series, *Muhyo & Roji's Bureau of Supernatural Investigation*, debuted in Japan's *Akamaru Jump* magazine in 2004 and went on to be serialized in *Weekly Shonen Jump*.

MUHYO & ROJI'S
BUREAU OF SUPERNATURAL INVESTIGATION

VOL. 14
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY
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Publisher/Hyoe Narita

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Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by VIZ Media, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
First printing, December 2009

VIZ media
www.viz.com

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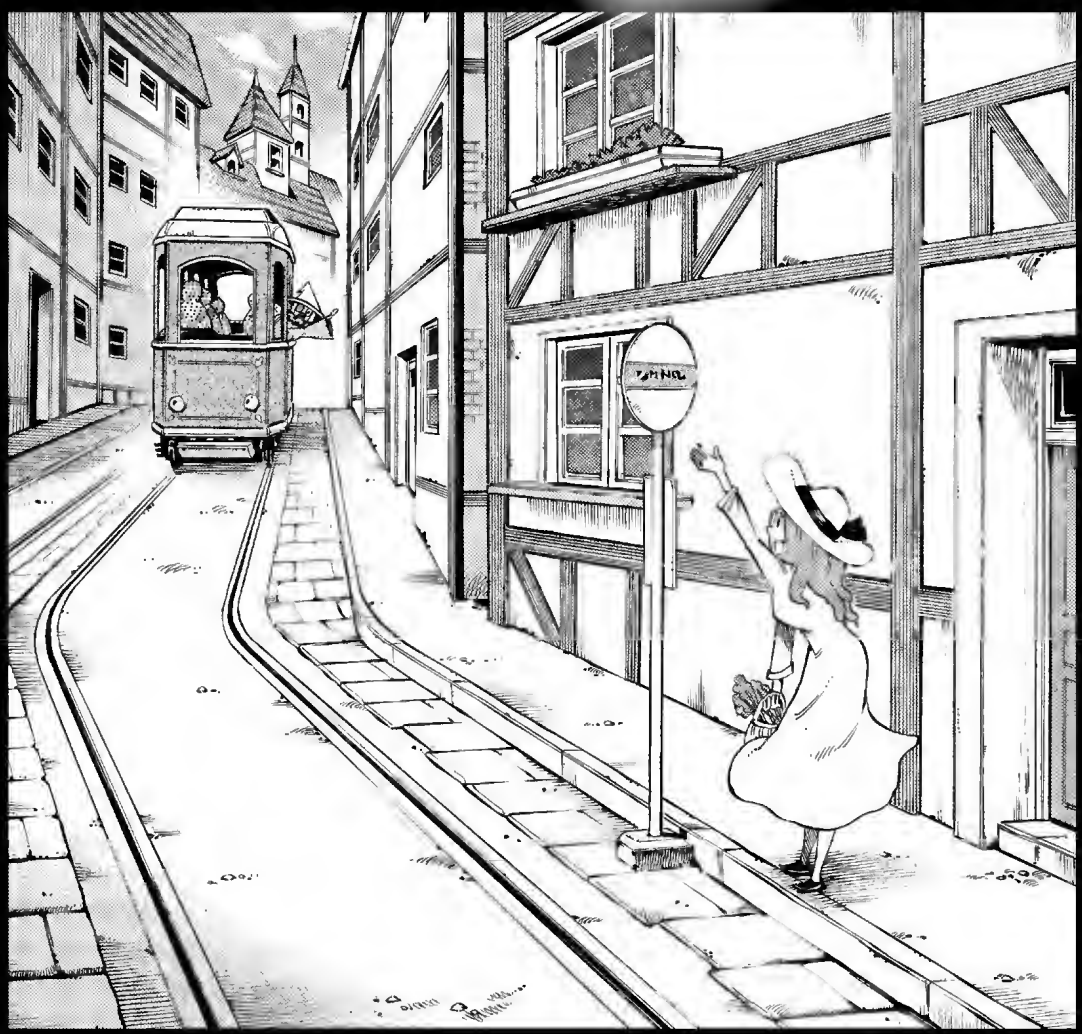
RATED T
TEEN

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MUHYO & ROJI'S BUREAU OF SUPERNATURAL INVESTIGATION is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains fantasy violence.
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SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION

Muhyo & Roji's Bureau of Supernatural Investigation

BSI



Vol. 14 **Umbrella**

Story & Art by **Yoshiyuki Nishi**

Dramatis Personae

Seven-Faced Dog



An envoy with the ability to change shape. Specialist at uncovering spectral crimes.

Ginji Sugakiya



Upperclassman at M.L.S. Boasts the rank of Assistant Judge even though he is still enrolled in school.

Reiko Imai



Brave Judge who joined Muhyo and gang during the fight against Face-Ripper Sophie.

Ivy Cortlaw



Member of the forbidden magic law group known as Ark. A powerful Ghostmaster, she has the ability to create and control ghosts.

Nana Takenouchi (Nana)



High school student, spirit medium and amateur photographer. Working as an assistant photographic investigator.

Lili & Maril Mathias



Twin siblings world-renowned for their research in magic law.

Pakero



Prince of the Plutonian Sea and an envoy, summoned forth by Goryo. Seems a bit detached at times but follows through in the end.

Buhpu



Member of Ark and Ivy's mentor.

Michael Cortlaw (Mick)



Member of Ark and Ivy's younger brother. Defeated by Busujima & Co.

The Story

Magic law is a newly established practice for judging and punishing the increasing crimes committed by spirits; those who use it are called "practitioners."

Muhyo and gang successfully deal with Gingko Hag—Ivy Cortlaw's "gift" to the M.L.S.—and obtain the Writ of Passage to the Endless Abyss. An ancient, powerful envoy lies sleeping in the abyss, but the practitioners won't be able to contact it just yet. First they have to fuse the Writ of Passage with the new Book of Magic Law that Biko made for Muhyo. While they are trying to figure out how to do that, Ivy attacks them! Goryo and Ebisu show up in the nick of time, allowing Muhyo and gang a swift retreat. Meanwhile, Goryo's envoy Pakero triumphs over Ivy's wrathwyrm Roxi, and Ivy is spent…or is she?

Teeki



Dangerous entity marked as a traitor to the Magic Law Association for 800 years.

Kiriko



A familiar, serving as a go-between for practitioners and their envoys. Fond of Nana, whom she calls "Sis."

Jiro Kusano (Roji)



Assistant at Muhyo's office, recently promoted from the lowest rank of "Second Clerk" to that of (provisional) "First Clerk." Roji has a gentle heart and has been known to freak out in the presence of spirits. Lately, he has been devoting himself to the study of magic law so that he can pull his own weight someday.

Toru Muhyo (Muhyo)



Young, genius magic law practitioner with the highest rank of "Executor." Always calm and collected (though sometimes considered cold), Muhyo possesses a strong sense of justice and even has a kind side. Sleeps a lot to recover from the exhaustion caused by his practice.

Harumi Busujima



Executor and one of the only practitioners in the world capable of "remote magic law."

Yu Abiko (Biko)



Muhyo's classmate and an Artificer. Makes seals, pens, magic law books and other accoutrements of magic law.

Yoichi Himukai (Yoichi)



Judge and Muhyo's former classmate. Expert practitioner of all magic law except execution.

Page Klaus



Chief Investigator for the Magic Law Association, Yoichi's boss, and Muhyo and Enchu's former instructor.

Rio Kurofori (Rio)



Charismatic Artificer who turned traitor when the Magic Law Association stood by and let her mother die.

Soratsugu Madoka (Enchu)



Muhyo's former classmate and Executor-hopeful until one event turned him onto the traitor's path.

Umekichi Sasanoha



First clerk and Busujima's assistant. In his true envoy form, he is called *Umryuso*. "Umekichi" is his human-form alias.

Hanao Ebisu (Ebisu)



Judge and assistant to Goryo. Fired once, but has since been reinstated.

Daranimaru Goryo (Goryo)



Executor and former rival to Muhyo. When Ark captured him, it was Muhyo who came to the rescue.

Muhyo & Roji's Bureau of Supernatural Investigation

BSI

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USE JUST ONE MORE FORBIDDEN MAGIC LAW AND YOU'LL BE COMPLETELY SPECTRALIZED.
ARTICLE 113
UMBRELLA
SH-A
A
A A
FURTHER RESISTANCE IS... INADVISABLE.
I'D AS SOON NOT HAVE TO TAKE ANOTHER LIFE.


...
NOR DO I PARTICULARLY RELISH HAVING MORE ENEMIES DISTURBING MY EVENTUAL REST.
SHA


ZUP
WE'RE NOT SO EASILY FOOLED, MISS CORTLAW.
SLRRRP
SHHH
!
TING
LET ME LIVE?
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I HEARD THAT?
HEH.
FWOO
PUKERI.
YUMMY.
WOOO O SH
CRUNCH
AGH ...!!
FW
K
PAUWAWARO KERIRIRESOREYU.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP, LORD PAKERO.
KERORI.
YUP.
WELL NOW.
FW
AP
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! MORE FORBIDDEN MAGIC LAW?!

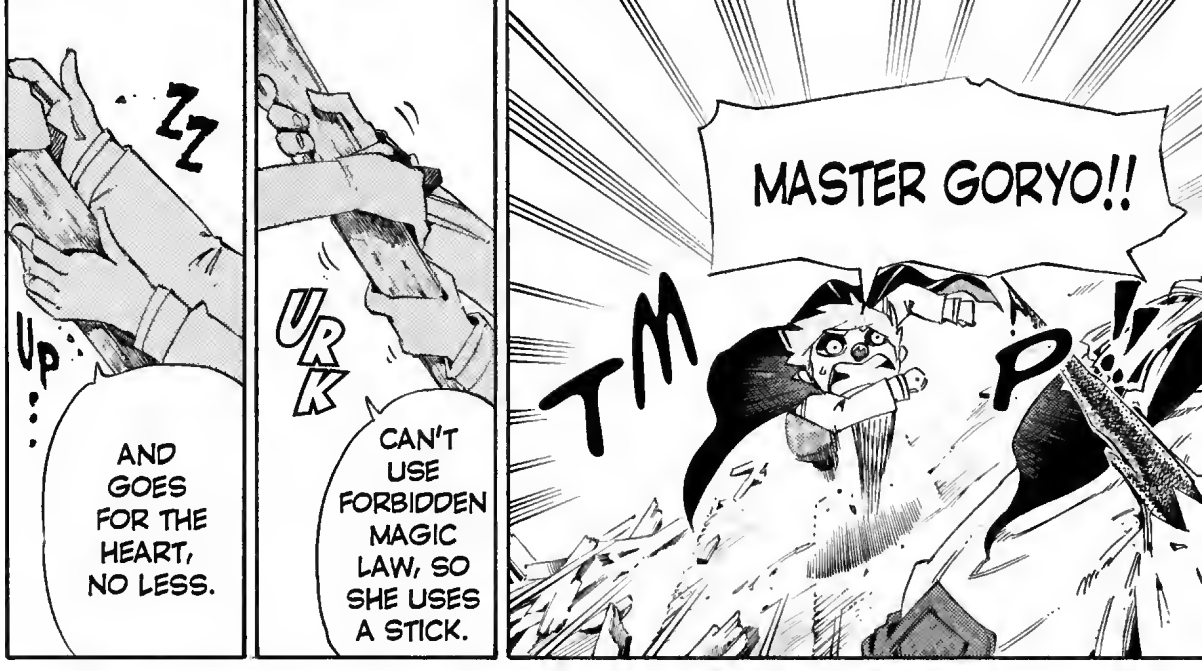

SHUP
URORIRIPEKERI.
A TASTY EVENING IT'S BEEN.
KERISORIHARI PUKERIKERO.
WHO KNOWS HOW THE NEXT WILL TASTE?
!!
AP
PUKERITAROMUKERO.
I'M SAD IT'S OVER.
SH
WUP
AND HE'S POWERFUL.
RUSTLE...
HEH HEH. QUITE.
THAT ENVOY'S QUITE THE FREE SPIRIT, EH?
SW
TH
UNK


ZUD
ZUD
ZUD
THEY'RE SLOWING ...?
W-WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
!!
SLURP
GULP
!!


WAAAGH
BIND THOSE GHOSTS, QUICKLY!
NOW'S OUR CHANCE!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MUHYO?
DON'T BE SO SURE.
WHEW. THEN THOSE TWO ARE OKAY!
SO GORYO BEAT IVY!
THAT'S GREAT NEWS!
AYE, LADDY!
THE GHOSTS RUNNING AMOK IN TOWN ARE WEAKENING!
SCREECH!!

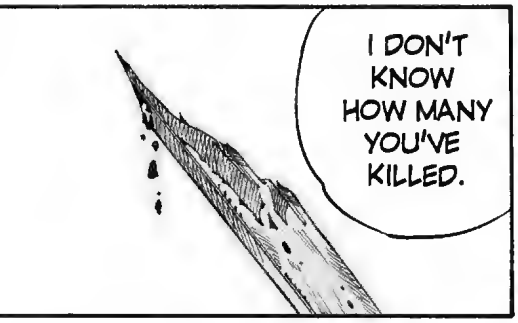

I'VE SEEN THE DETERMINATION IN THOSE EYES OF HERS.
SHE WON'T GIVE UP SO EASILY.
UKK...
ZZZ
NO...
TOO QUICK ...!
BLAST!
PLIT

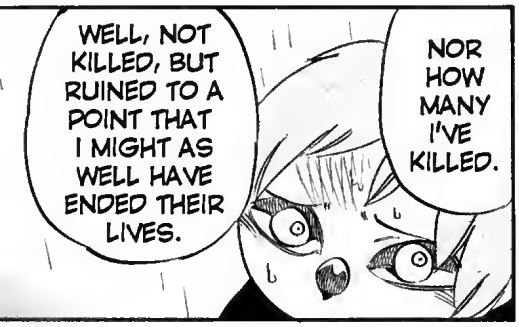

MASTER GORYO!!
TM
P!
URK
CAN'T USE FORBIDDEN MAGIC LAW, SO SHE USES A STICK.
ZZ
UP...
AND GOES FOR THE HEART, NO LESS.


YOU WERE A GOOD ADVERSARY.
SS
POK..!!
FWUK
NO! I SHOULD'VE SEEN THAT COMING!

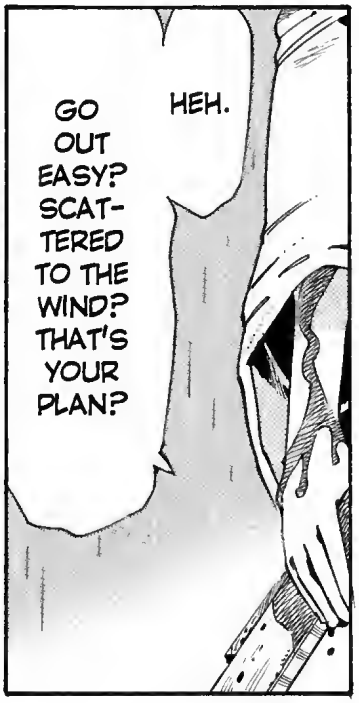

WE HAVE TO GET YOU MEDICAL HELP!
QUIET DOWN. I CAN'T HEAR HER.
PANT
WHAT ...?!
SSSU
KILL ...
...ME...
SSS
PANT...
PANT...


SH
A
A
A
A
NOTH-
ING
...
THERE'S
NOTHING
LEFT...
I HAVE
LOST.
DO IT.
KILL
ME
HERE.


I DON'T
KNOW
HOW MANY
YOU'VE
KILLED.


WELL, NOT
KILLED, BUT
RUINED TO A
POINT THAT
I MIGHT AS
WELL HAVE
ENDED THEIR
LIVES.
NOR
HOW
MANY
I'VE
KILLED.


I WAS
VERY
MUCH
THE SAME
WAY.


HEH.
GO
OUT
EASY?
SCAT-
TERED
TO THE
WIND?
THAT'S
YOUR
PLAN?

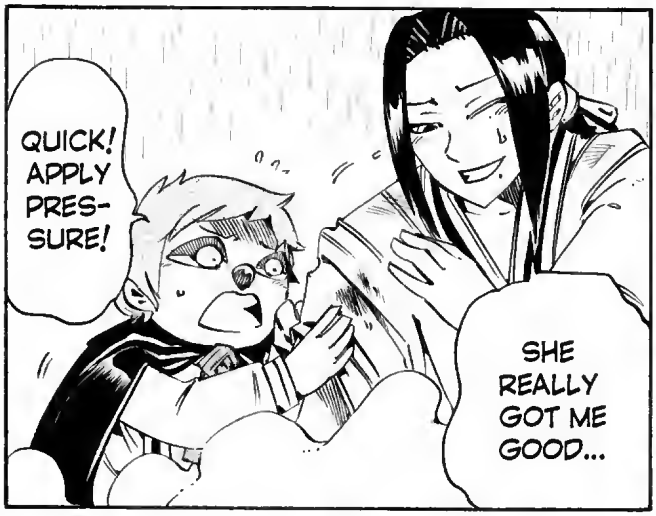

HOW
SWEET...
AND HOW
WRONG.
HOW SWEET
IT WOULD BE
TO DIE WITHOUT
HAVING TO
KNOW THEIR
SUFFERING.


NO, HALF-GHAST. HERE IS YOUR SENTENCE—
SOLITARY INCARCERATION IN THE ARCANUM!
OOH
IT SHOULD TAKE ONLY A FEW DECADES IN THAT CRADLE OF STONE FOR YOUR RAGGED SOUL TO RECOVER WHAT IT'S LOST.
....!!
AND AS A WRETCHED OLD HAG, MAYBE YOU'LL APPRECIATE WHAT YOU COULD HAVE BEEN.
AND MAYBE...
...JUST MAYBE, YOU'LL REALIZE WHAT YOU WERE NOW.
HOW WEARIED WITH HATE YOU WERE.

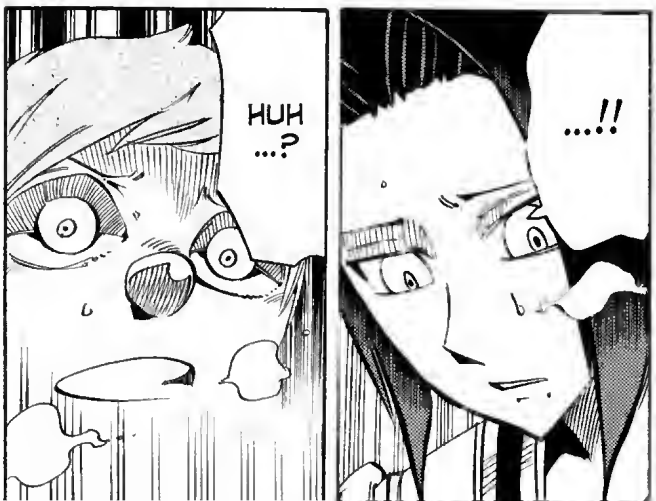

...WEARY?
GASP
PANT
PANT
I BET YOU'RE PRETTY TIRED...
...
SSS...
WHEN GORYO PICKED ME UP, I WAS ON THE BRINK OF DEATH.
I SLEPT FOR DAYS.
FOR FOUR DAYS, MY EYES DIDN'T OPEN.
I'D LIVED LIFE IN THE GRIP OF A HATRED I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND.
IT ATE AWAY AT ME FROM THE INSIDE.
HEH HEH... LOOK AT THAT. MY HAND'S SHAK-ING JUST THINK-ING ABOUT IT.
YOU STILL HAVE THOSE GOOGLY EYES TOO.


G-
GOOGLY
...?
HEH.
AH
HA
HA
HA!

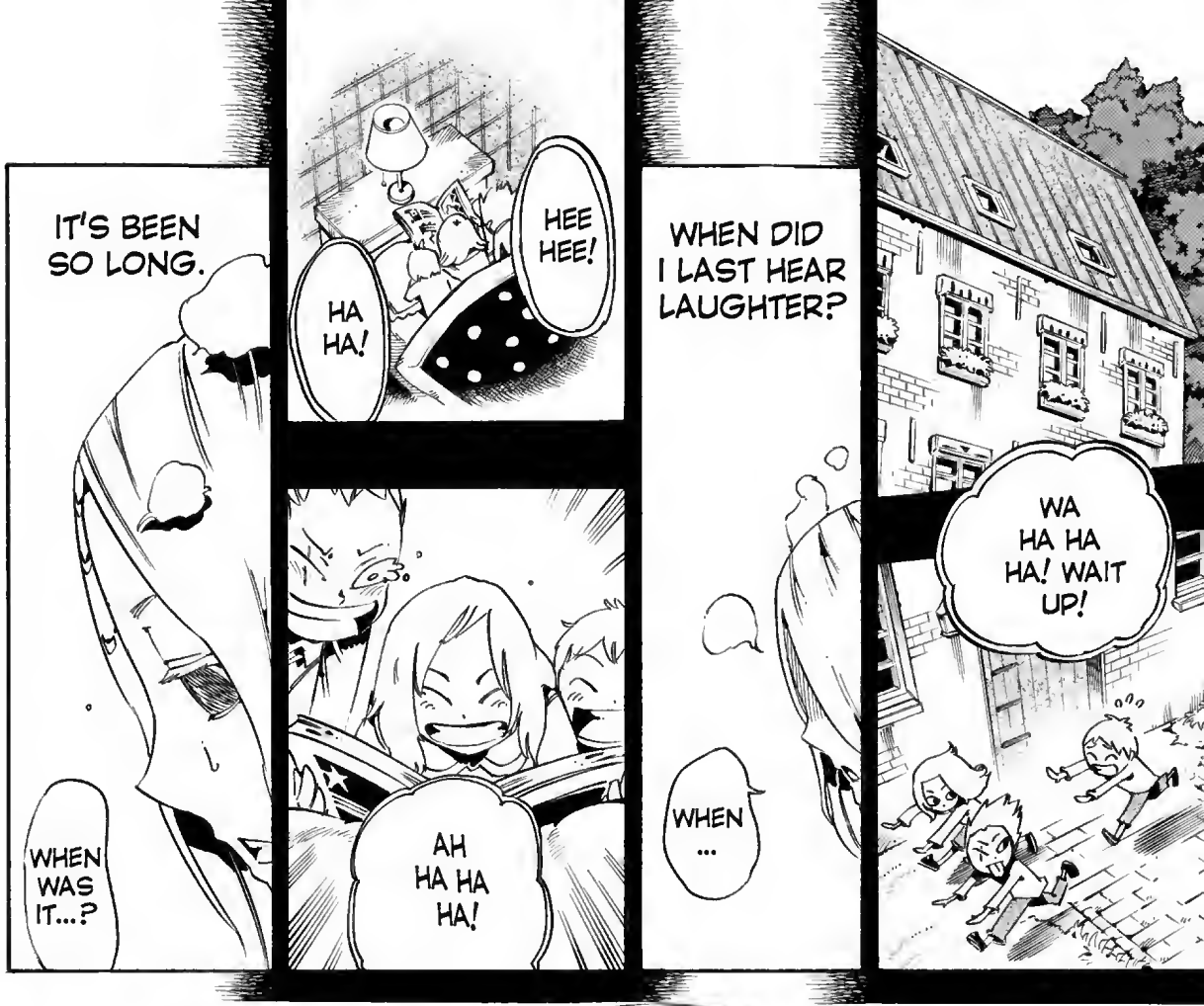

HA
HA!

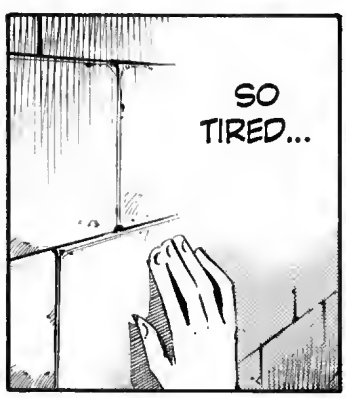

QUICK!
APPLY
PRES-
SURE!
SHE
REALLY
GOT ME
GOOD...

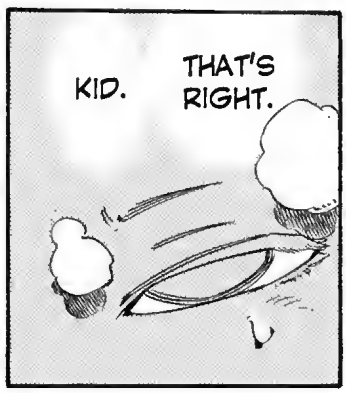

M-
MASTER!
H-H-
HEY...!
GOOGLY
?!
OW,
OW! MY
ARM...!
OH!
MAS-
TER
!!
THAT'S
RIGHT!
WE NEED
BAN-
DAGES!


HUH
...?
...!!

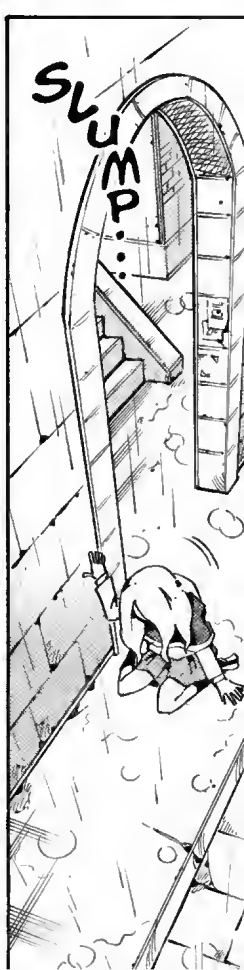

SHE'S A HALF-GHAST AFTER ALL. SHE MUST HAVE TRANS-LOCATED.
I THINK NOT.
SHE ASCENDED ?! REALLY ?!
LOOKS LIKE I MIGHT HAVE OVER-DONE IT A BIT.
FWOOSH
FOOL.
SHE'D HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF GIVING UP!
THAT WAS A LAUGH... HE... LAUGHED!
GASP
PANT
PANT...
ZUK...
PANT...
LET'S FIND HER!
SHE CAN'T HAVE GONE FAR!
SHA
R-RIGHT!
A
A
A
A


IT'S BEEN SO LONG.
WHEN WAS IT...?
HEE HEE!
HA HA!
AH HA HA HA!
WHEN DID I LAST HEAR LAUGHTER?
WHEN ...
WA HA HA HA! WAIT UP!


SO TIRED...


KID.
THAT'S RIGHT.


MICK ...
KID ...


SLUMP...

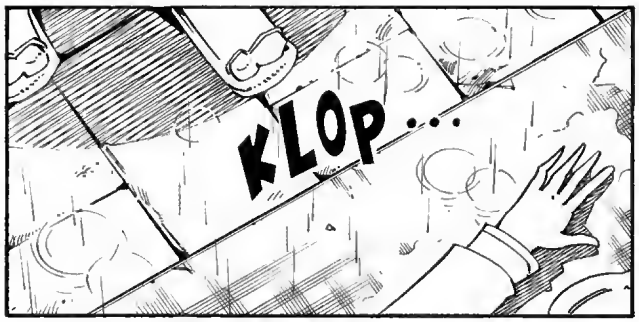

I HAVE TO SEE KID.
KRK
KID ...
LURCH
I HAVE TO SEE HIM...
SHA...
KID ...
SH
HH
OH DEAR. HE MESSED YOU UP BUT GOOD.
YOU'RE IN NO SHAPE TO FIGHT.
ZUK
BUHPU ...
YOU ALWAYS MADE A GOOD EFFORT TOO. SUCH A SHAME...
MY TEACHER ...
PANT...
PANT...
WHERE IS KID ...?
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE HIM FOR?
I WANT ...

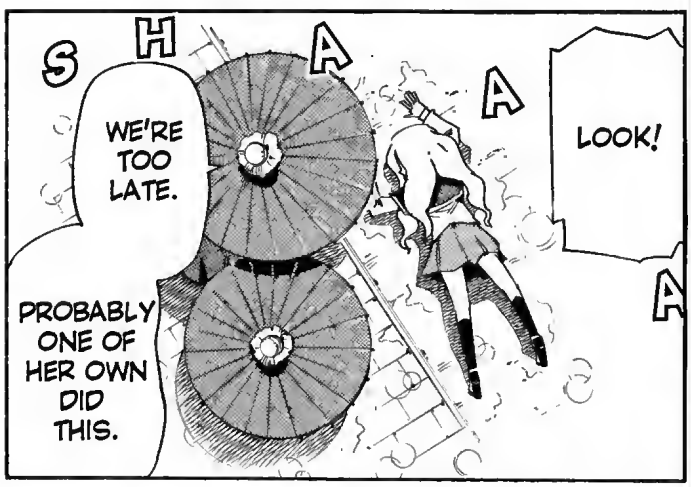

I WANT TO TAKE HIM HOME ...


I HAD HIGHER HOPES FOR YOU THAN THIS.

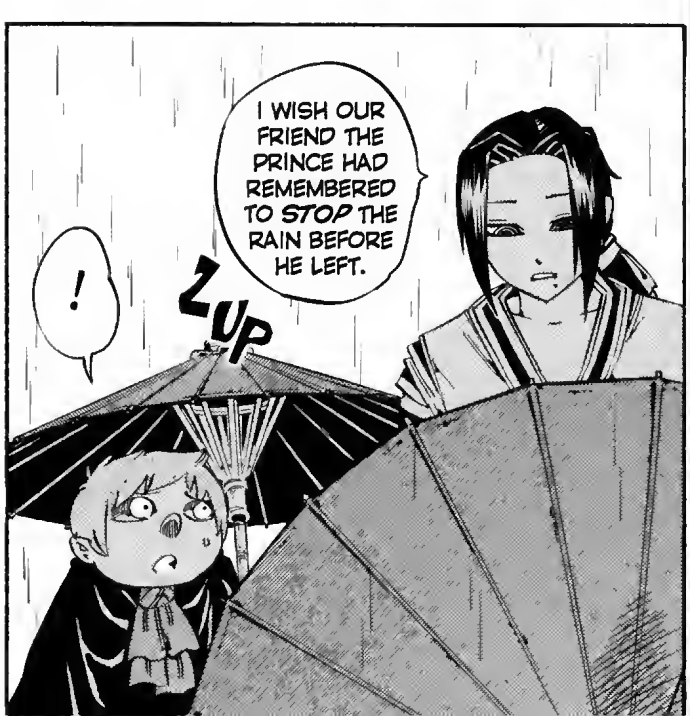

LET'S GO HOME ...
...KID.


C'MON, GUYS! LET'S GO!
SHAAAA
AH WELL.
FWSH!!
YOU DISAP-POINT ME.
SPAK...
WATCH OUT, ARK! HERE WE COME!
LET'S GO, KID.
REALLY?
OF COURSE WE WILL.
REALLY AND TRULY?
REALLY.
WA HA HA! DON'T GET ALL SNIFFLY ON US NOW!
WE'LL BE BACK, RIGHT?
WHAT IS IT?


KLOP...

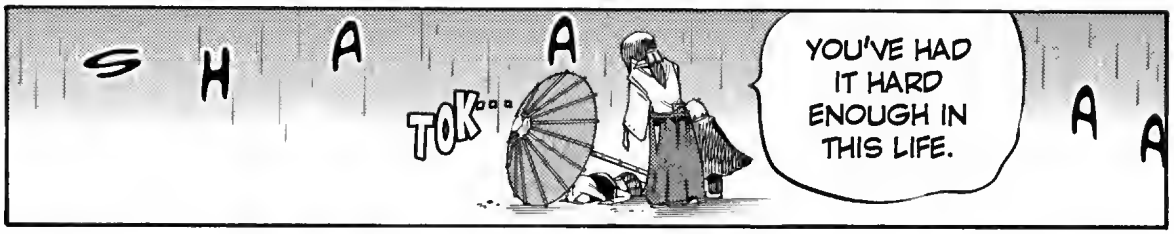

S
H
A
A
A
WE'RE TOO LATE.
PROBABLY ONE OF HER OWN DID THIS.
LOOK!


BUT STILL.
HOW COULD THEY...? SHE'S OUR ENEMY, SURE.


I WISH OUR FRIEND THE PRINCE HAD REMEMBERED TO *STOP* THE RAIN BEFORE HE LEFT.
!
ZUP


REALLY AND TRULY.


COME TO THINK OF IT, IT MIGHT BE RAINING ON THE OTHER SIDE TOO.

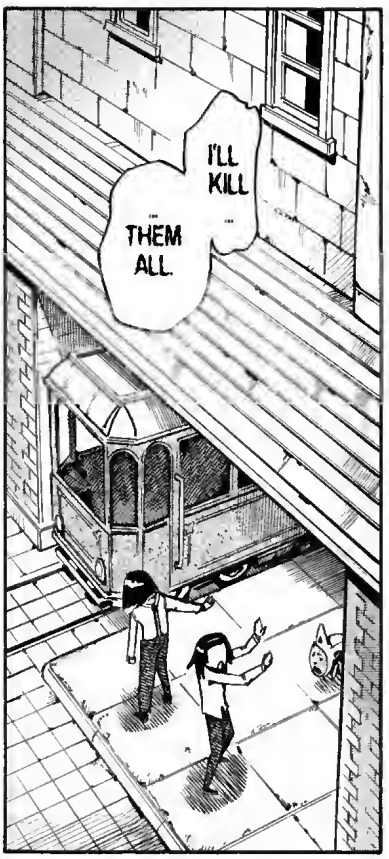

S H A A
TOK...
YOU'VE HAD IT HARD ENOUGH IN THIS LIFE.
A A

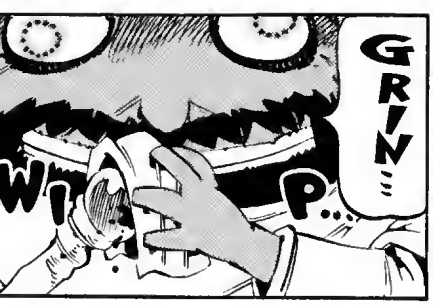

S H A A
I HOPE THIS UMBRELLA PROVIDES SOME RELIEF...
A A


OKAAAY.
WHAT'S THE PASS-WORD ...?
M L
STOR AGE
"ARK."
THUNK..
立入禁止
立入禁止
FWSH
THEY GOT IVY. I'M SORRY.
CRE
I HAVE BAD NEWS.
E
KID.
K
IVY ...
TH-THOSE ...
... ARE HER HAIR-PINS ...


DON
DON
DON
KILL THEM.
DON
DON
KILL.


ALL OF THEM.

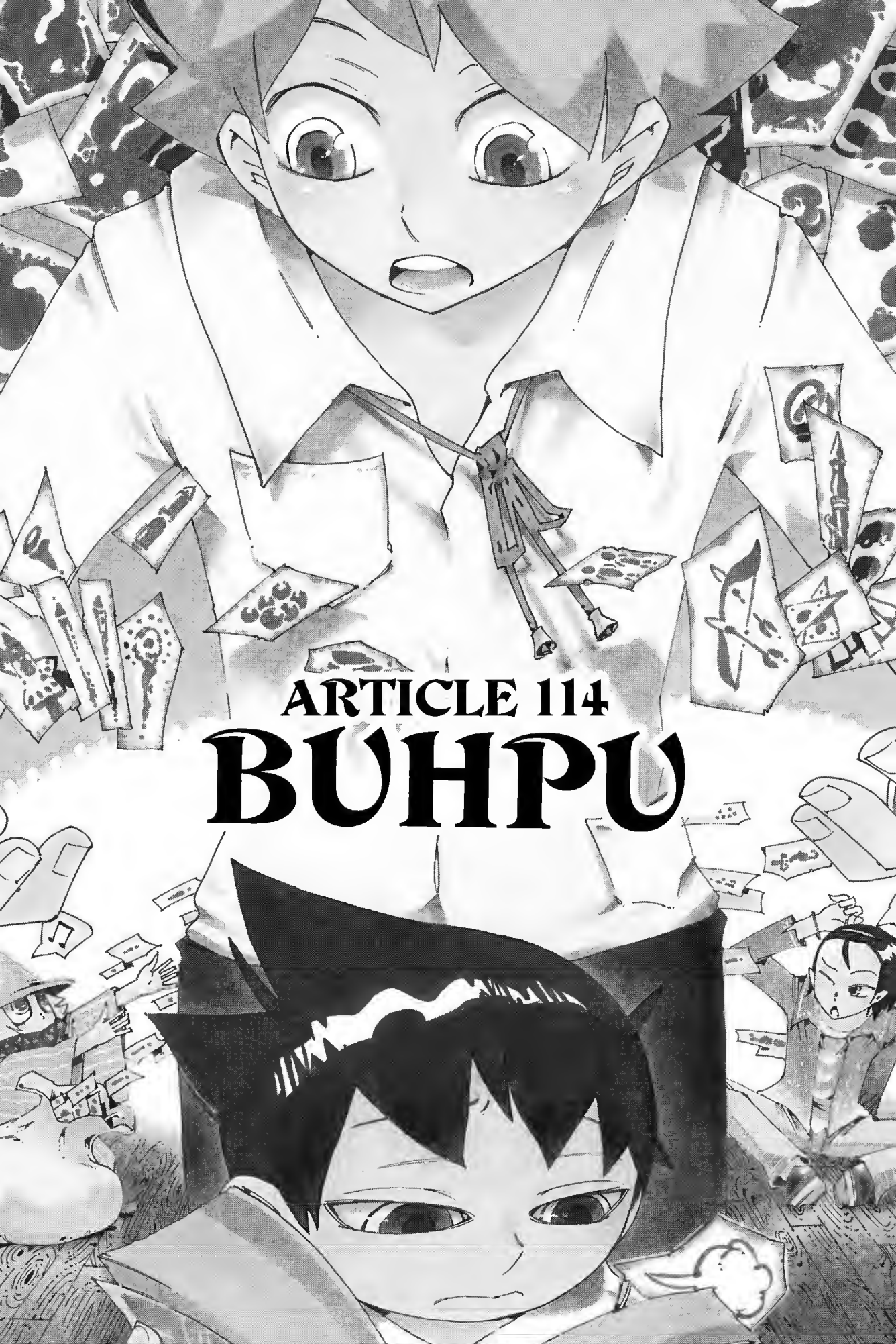

I'LL KILL ... THEM ALL.


GRIN...
P...


A FINE IDEA!
TOK


CHT
CHT
K-K-K...
K-K-K...
KILL...!
CHT
CHT
CHT
K-K-KILL!
KILL!



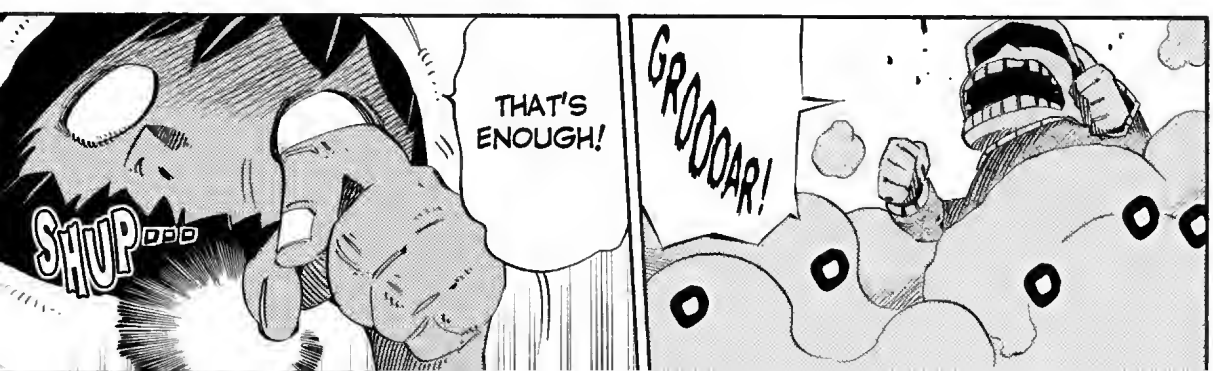

ARTICLE 114
BUHPU


KRASH!!
DOK
DOK
DOK
DOK
DOK
VUH VUH VUH VUH VUH VUH!
NOW, NOW, KID!


WAIT! LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY FIRST!
ROOAR
KRIK
KRIK
KRIK
KILL· KILL· KILL· KI...
GRIND


CRASH
KILL THEM !!
AGH!
H!!
VSH
THEY KILLED IVY!
I'LL KILL THEM ALL!!!

SHWOOO
BONK
GREAT.
TOK
TOK
OWW!


SHUPOOO
THAT'S ENOUGH!
GROOOAR!

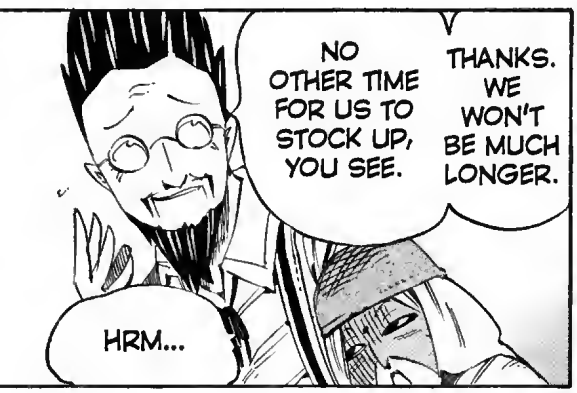

PO
K
K
GAK!
VIP
VIP VIP VIP
ZUK
ZUK
ZUK
SN
AP!!
AM I NOT LIKE A FATHER TO YOU?
GAK!
Z
K...


DEAR ME...
PAT PAT
TO
K
VWOON
FW
SH


ZA
BEEN A WHILE, EH?
THERE. BACK TO THE WAY YOU USED TO BE.
P
DA DA
N
NGH ...
YES. THEY'LL KNOW YOU FOR WHO YOU ARE!
UNH ...
THE DEMON CHILD OF FORBIDDEN MAGIC LAW!
!!
WOO
SHIVER...
NGH ...
EH, KID?
SHH...
WE'LL KILL THEM TOGETHER.
AND SHOW YOU TO THE WORLD.


!...
IVY...
THE GHOSTS ARE DORMANT, BUT FOR HOW LONG?
MUTTER MUTTER...
BEEP
HONK
BEEP
WHAT? A TRAFFIC JAM ON THE ROAD OUT?
THE FOOLS RUN LIKE HARES!
RUN!
OUT OF THE WAY!
BUT IF EVERYONE'S LEAVING...
BZZ WZZ
ONE OF THOSE!
PAK
AND ONE OF THOSE!
PAK!!
ONE OF THESE TOO!
YES!
I WANT TEN OF THOSE!
FLAP!!
...THEN TELL ME THIS...
THIS!
AND THAT!
FWOP FWOP

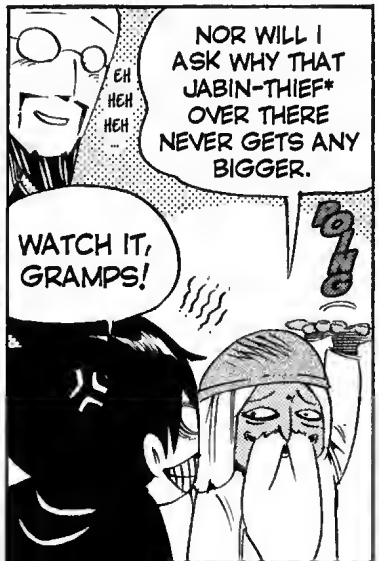

THUD
WHY IS MY STORE SO CROWDED, PAGE?!
ROGER!
ER. SORRY?
HEE HEE.
GINJI! TWENTY CIRCLE WARDS!
UMEKI-CHI! TEN GRADE-A SMOKE BOMBS!
TH
UD
GOT 'EM!
UM, ER...
OH, AND THAT.


NO OTHER TIME FOR US TO STOCK UP, YOU SEE.
THANKS. WE WON'T BE MUCH LONGER.
HRM...


GRR GRR
KLAK KLAK
IF IT WASN'T FOR YOU, I'D HAVE HAD THIS PLACE CLEARED OUT AN HOUR AGO!
NAZHA NAGAI-PROPRIETOR OF ARTIFACT SHOP "NIGHTMARES"

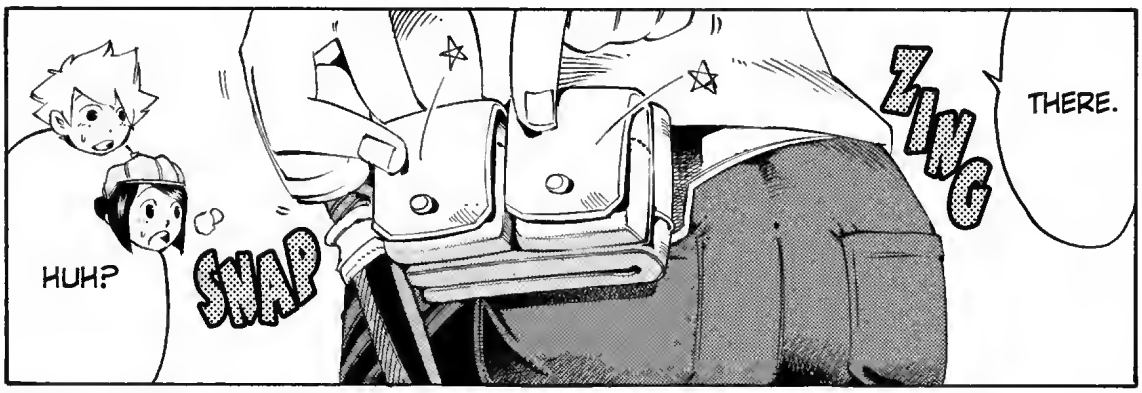
*SEE VOLUME 6.


WHAT *HAS* GOTTEN BIGGER...
WMP WMP
TMP TMP

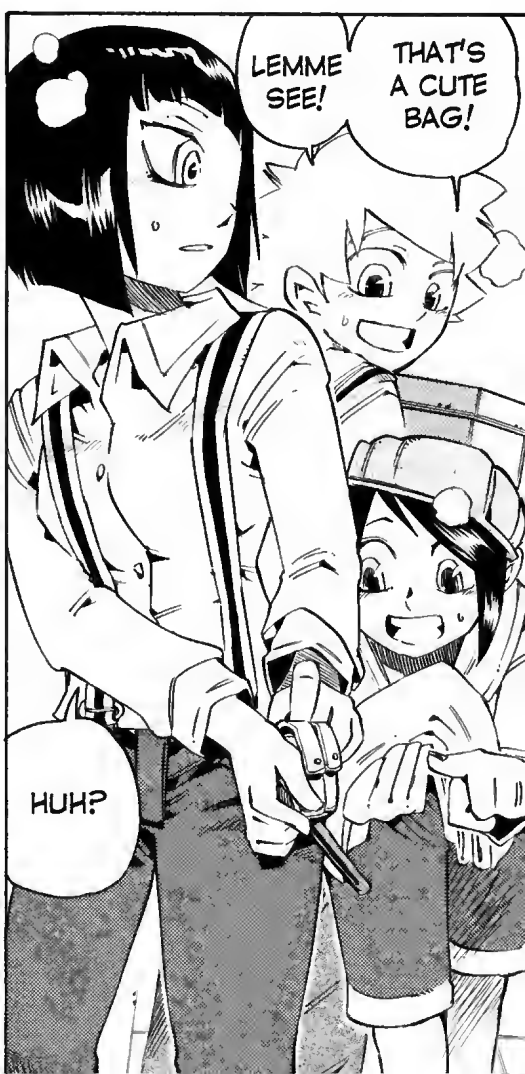

NOR WILL I ASK WHY THAT JABIN-THIEF* OVER THERE NEVER GETS ANY BIGGER.
EH HEH HEH
WATCH IT, GRAMPS!
FOLD


...
I WON'T ASK WHAT IT IS YOU'RE SO EXCITED ABOUT.
VWIP

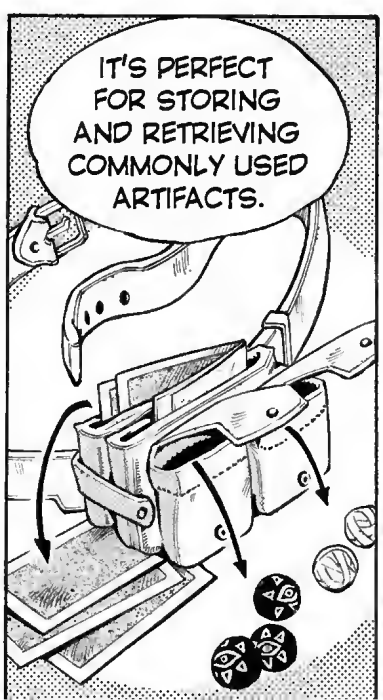

QUITE TRUE, NAZHA.
HEH.
CLEARLY.
...ARE OUR TROUBLES.


HUH?
SWAP
ZING
THERE.


"ARTIFACT POUCH"?
MY ARTIFACT POUCH?

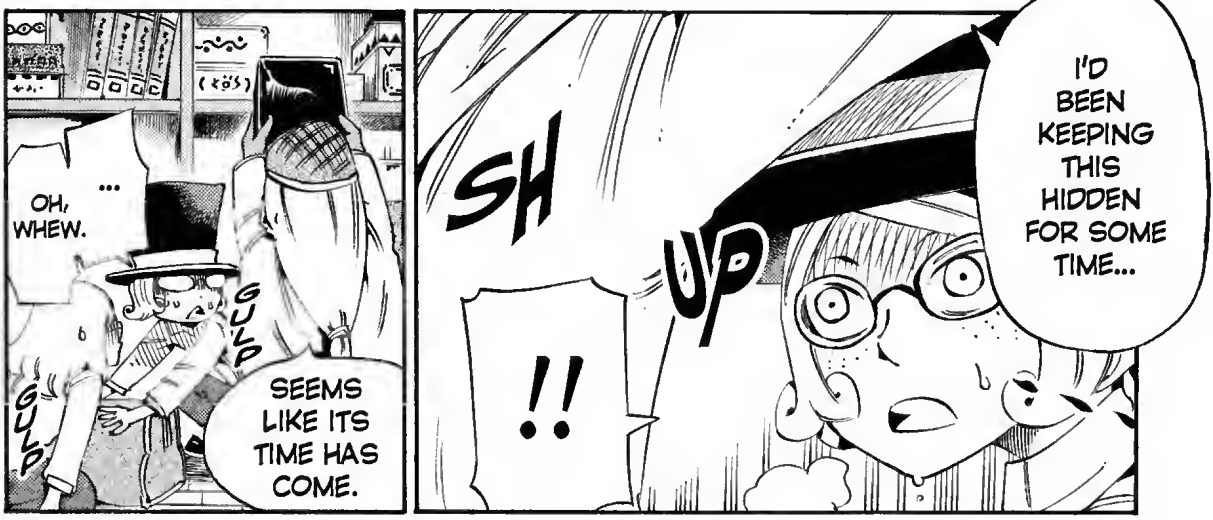

HUH?
LEMME SEE!
THAT'S A CUTE BAG!

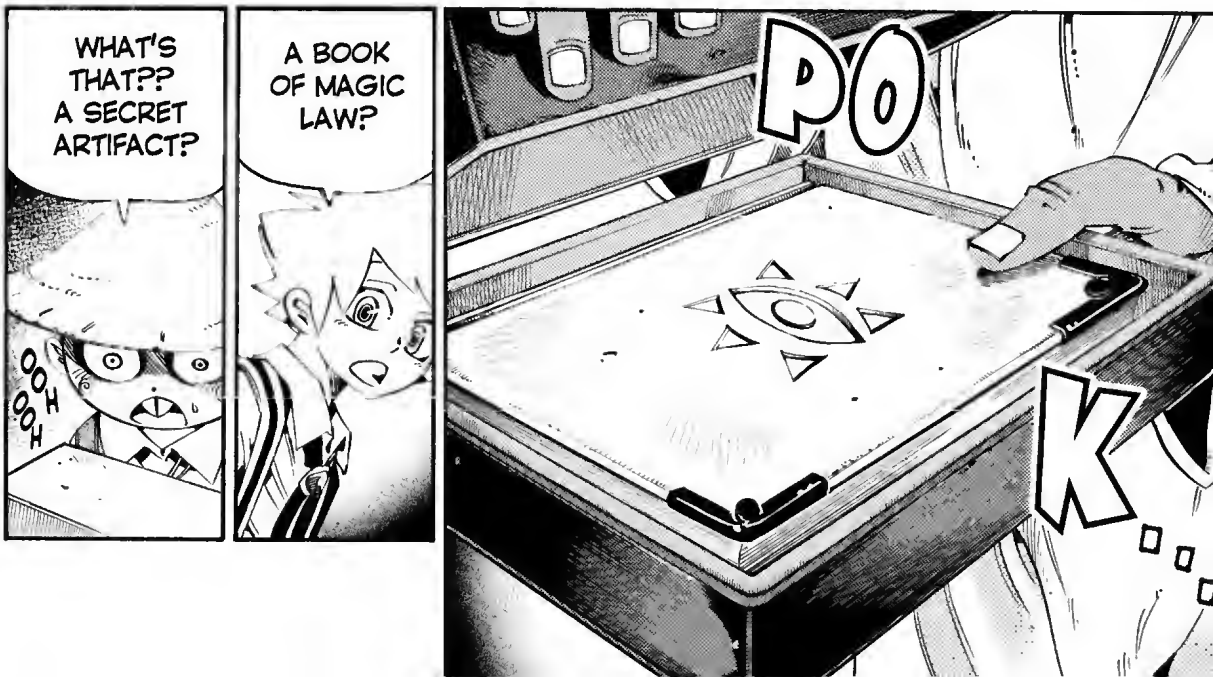

HEY, I NEVER NOTICED!
(GINJI)
(YOICHI)
THEY'RE KIND OF HIDDEN, BUT THOSE TWO ARE WEARING THEM TOO.


IT'S PERFECT FOR STORING AND RETRIEVING COMMONLY USED ARTIFACTS.


SHUP
CLICK CLICK
?
IF YOU'RE PLANNING ON CARRYING THAT KNIFE...
THERE. PERFECT.
!!
DING
I DO THE SAME WHEN I'M TRAVEL-ING LIGHT.
THAT'S PERFECTLY ACCEPTA-BLE TOO.
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
BUT WE NEED MORE ANTI-GHOST ARTIFACTS THESE DAYS.
WAIT, SO WHERE WERE YOU KEEPING YOURS, ROJI?
STUFFED
MY POCK-ETS...
IT'S ALL WARM!
INSIDE MY SHIRT. IT WAS THE ONLY PLACE!
WHAA?! SO WHERE WERE YOU KEEPING THIS?!
...
I...
PAY ME BACK LATER WHEN YOU'RE RICH.
THANK YOU!
...
MARIL?
HNN?
TAKE IT.
I-I COULDN'T POSSIBLY ...!
SEE? IT FITS!
WOW ...
BUT I CAN'T ...


SHH
WE WERE GOING TO KEEP THAT HIDDEN!
YIPES! CLOSE ONE!
YEESH...
SHOVE
THAT'S THE ARORPATHY BOOK!
MARIL!
!
OH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT BOOK!

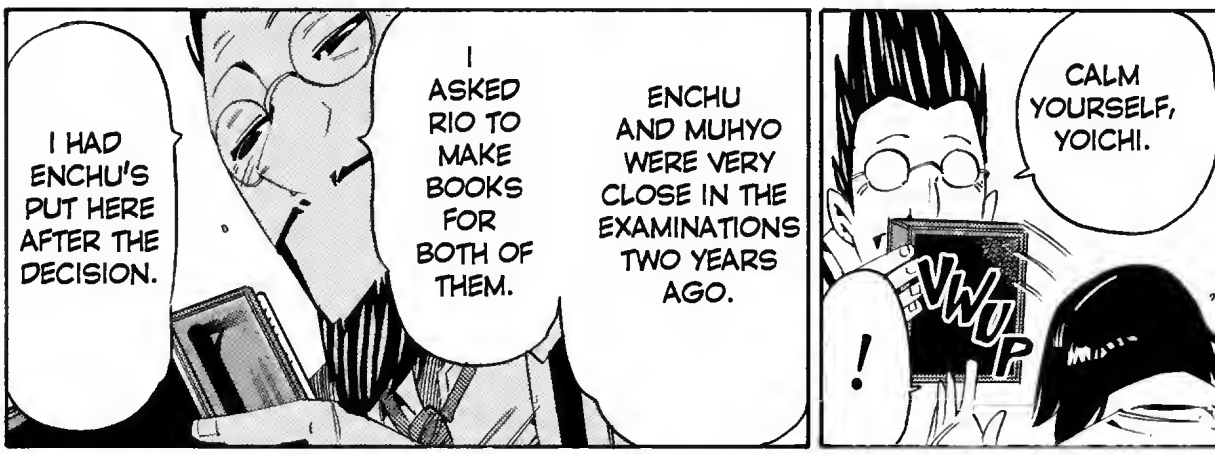

...
OH, WHEW.
GULP
GULP
SEEMS LIKE ITS TIME HAS COME.
SH
UP
!!
I'D BEEN KEEPING THIS HIDDEN FOR SOME TIME...

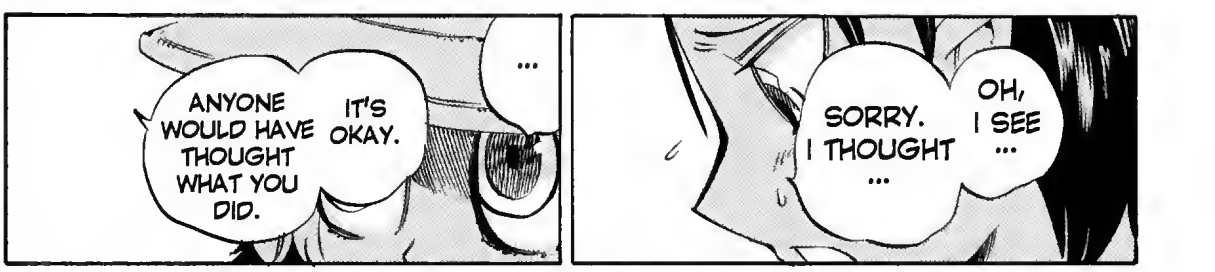

WHAT'S THAT?? A SECRET ARTIFACT?
OOH OOH
A BOOK OF MAGIC LAW?
PO
K


THAT'S THE BOOK...
...I MADE FOR ENCHU.
OH...
THAT ...


I THOUGHT IT WAS DESTROYED YEARS AGO.
...
WHAT ...?
...

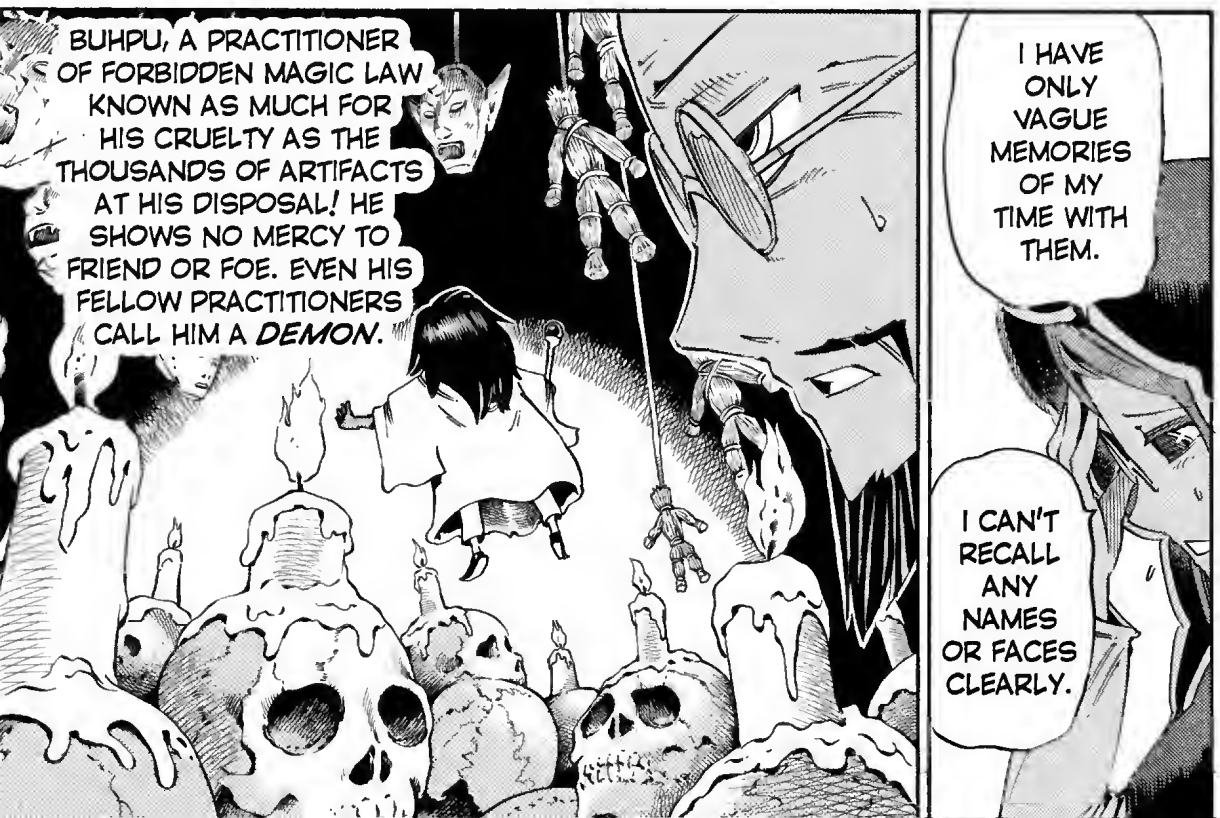

WAP
!!
JUST HOLD ON A MINUTE !!
YOU MEAN HE COULD HAVE BEEN AN EXECUTOR?!
TMP!!
JUST ...

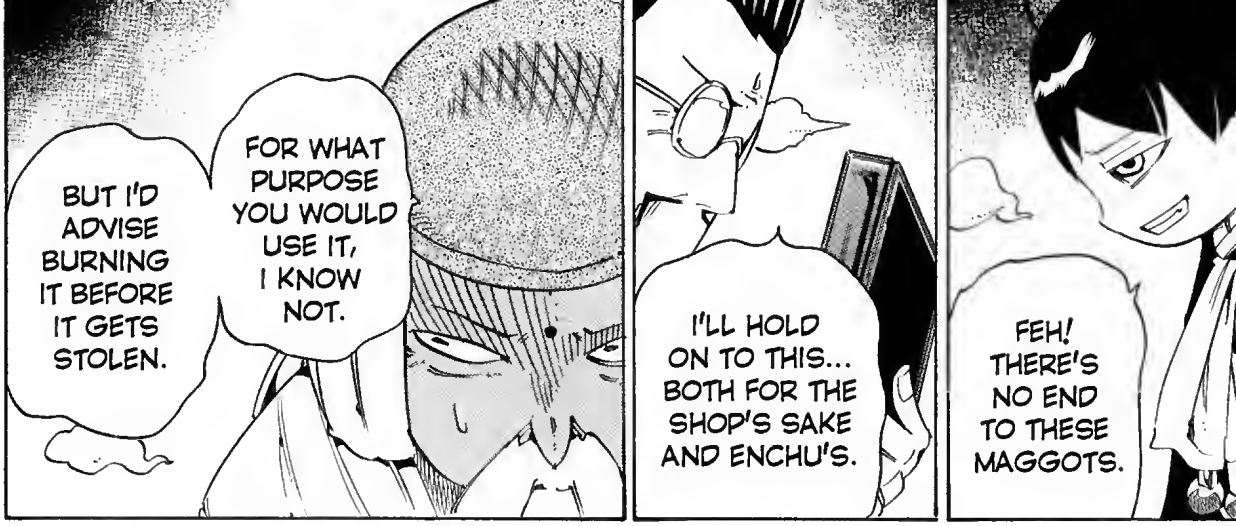

I HAD ENCHU'S PUT HERE AFTER THE DECISION.
I ASKED RIO TO MAKE BOOKS FOR BOTH OF THEM.
ENCHU AND MUHYO WERE VERY CLOSE IN THE EXAMINATIONS TWO YEARS AGO.
CALM YOURSELF, YOICHI.
VWUP
!


...
ANYONE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT WHAT YOU DID.
IT'S OKAY.
SORRY. I THOUGHT ...
OH, I SEE ...

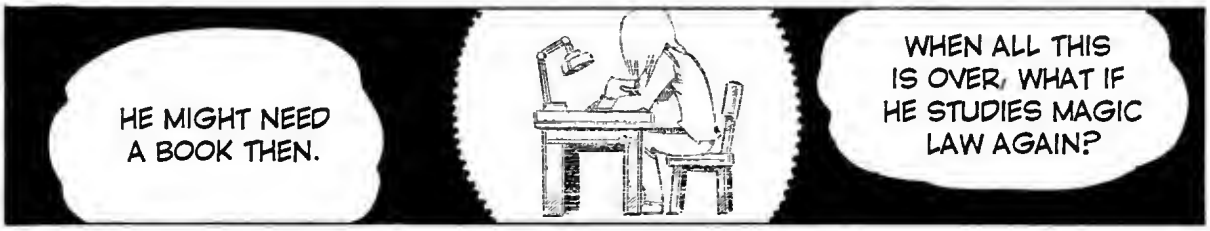

GLAD YOU ASKED.
BUT... WHY BRING IT OUT NOW?
ENCHU'S BOOK...
THE THING HE WANTED ABOVE ALL ELSE...


SOME-ONE ...?
WHAT...?!
...
JUST THE OTHER NIGHT, A FELLOW STINKING OF THE FORBIDDEN CAME IN.
SAID HE WANTED TO BUY ENCHU'S BOOK.
I COULDN'T SEE HIS FACE.
BUT MY HUNCH? IT WAS BUHPU, THE PUPPET-MAN.
RIO. IS BUHPU WITH ARK?
...!!
... I'M SORRY.


BUHPU, A PRACTITIONER OF FORBIDDEN MAGIC LAW KNOWN AS MUCH FOR HIS CRUELTY AS THE THOUSANDS OF ARTIFACTS AT HIS DISPOSAL! HE SHOWS NO MERCY TO FRIEND OR FOE. EVEN HIS FELLOW PRACTITIONERS CALL HIM A *DEMON*.
I HAVE ONLY VAGUE MEMORIES OF MY TIME WITH THEM.
I CAN'T RECALL ANY NAMES OR FACES CLEARLY.


FOR WHAT PURPOSE YOU WOULD USE IT, I KNOW NOT.
BUT I'D ADVISE BURNING IT BEFORE IT GETS STOLEN.
I'LL HOLD ON TO THIS... BOTH FOR THE SHOP'S SAKE AND ENCHU'S.
FEH! THERE'S NO END TO THESE MAGGOTS.


BUT THAT'D BE SUCH A WASTE.
YEAH! 'SPECIALLY WITH THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE NOW...

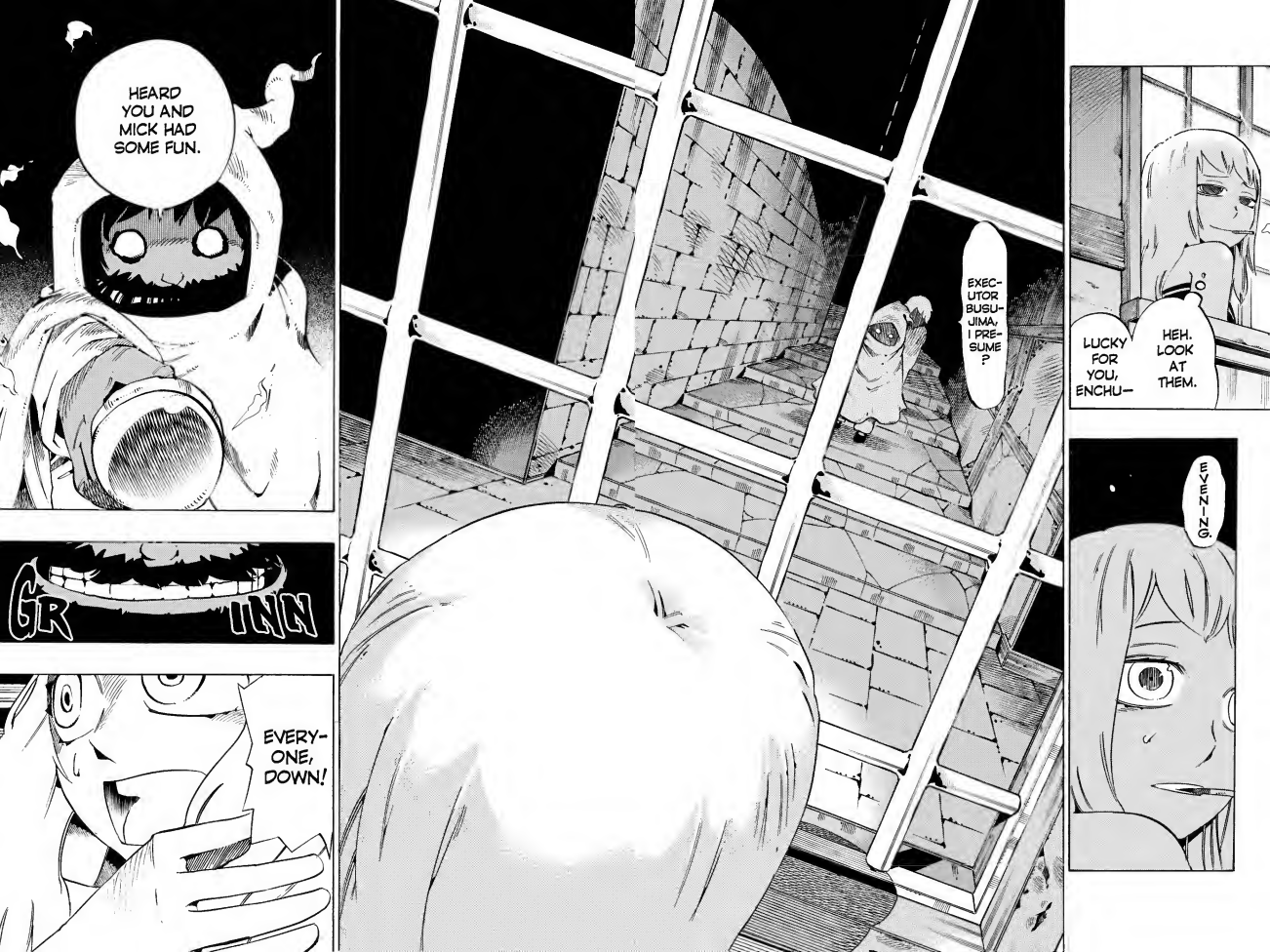

HE MIGHT NEED A BOOK THEN.
WHEN ALL THIS IS OVER, WHAT IF HE STUDIES MAGIC LAW AGAIN?


HMPH ...
RIGHT, MUHYO?
IT COULD HAPPEN...


BLESS YOU, ROJI.
...
HEH.
HMM.
I'M THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO STUDY!
HEH.
THAT'LL BE THE DAY.


YOU'RE JUST A PLEBIAN.
WHAT-EVER.

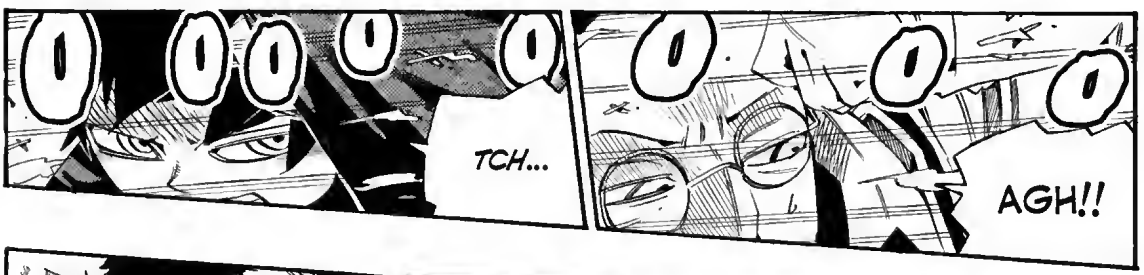

...
MEANIE!
HEY!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
HEY
HEY
SK
WHAAAAA?!
OCK
HEY, IF HE'S A PLEBIAN, WHAT'S THAT MAKE YOU?!
(ALL TOGETHER)
YOU MEANIE!
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T STAND GE-NIUSES!
YOU'LL NEVER MAKE EXECUTOR!
ZOING
HENNH


HEARD YOU AND MICK HAD SOME FUN.
GR
INN
EVERY-ONE, DOWN!
EXEC-UTOR BUSU-JIMA, I PRE-SUME?
HEH. LOOK AT THEM.
LUCKY FOR YOU, ENCHU—
MMMM—NG.


TOO SLOW.
SPAK
JUMP


WHAT'S GOING—?
EH...?
UNOH!!
K-SHAK...


YA KOO M!!


TCH...
AGH!!


BOSS!
BU-SU-JIMA!!


CRUMBLE
PLIT PLIT
OH?
DON'T TELL ME I GOT THEM ALL!


DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF...
SO YOU'RE BUHPU ...
PEH!

Q1: HAS GORYO EVER SEEN A PENNY?

Q2: HOW DID YOICHI BECOME THE STRONGEST JUDGE THERE IS EVEN THOUGH HE WAS PRACTICALLY FAILING IN SCHOOL AS A YOUTH? DID HIS "GENIUS" AWAKEN LIKE IT DID WITH MUHYO? OR DID HE JUST APPLY HIMSELF MORE AFTER WHAT HAPPENED WITH ENCHU?
-S.T., SHIZUOKA PREFECTURE

A1: "WHAT'S A PENNY?"



NOT ONLY HAS GORYO NEVER SEEN A PENNY BEFORE, BUT HE DIDN'T EVEN SEEM TO KNOW WHAT IT IS! I GUESS THESE MUNDANE MATTERS COME SLOW TO THE OVER-PRIVILEGED...

A2: I THINK HE STARTED APPLYING HIMSELF NOT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TO ENCHU, BUT AFTER MUHYO DISCOVERED HIS OWN GENIUS... BUT LET'S ASK, SHALL WE?



YEESH! "GEE! THANKS FOR ASKING!" HE SAYS... THEN HE GOES ON FOR THREE LONG HOURS ABOUT HIS LIFE STORY... I'M EXHAUSTED! AS FOR YOUR QUESTION, YEAH, IT WAS WHAT I SAID—WHEN MUHYO'S GENIUS AWAKENED, YOICHI KICKED INTO HIGH GEAR.


ARTICLE 115
RISK
SHOOOO
HM...
I CALLED THEM SLOW.
HNN?
WHERE DID THEY GO? PLUS THE WOUNDED ...?
UNH ...
AH ...
HEE HEE HEE.
LIKE ROACHES SCATTERING IN THE LIGHT...
BUT NOW I TAKE THAT BACK.


FWEE!
LITTLE MOLES GONE TO GROUND?
WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
WELL NOW.
THEY DRAGGED SOMEONE INTO THE BACK.
UNH... BLOOD ...
AAH ...
HOW MANY WILL EMERGE IN THE END, I WONDER?
ARTICLE 115
RISK


KEEP MOVING!
CHECK INJURIES AS WE RUN!
!!
OH
NANA, YOUR ARM'S BLEEDING!
IT'S NOTHING— I'M FINE.
JUST A SCRAPE HERE!
DRIP
DRIP
I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT HER.
I'M ALL RIGHT.
YOU, NAZHA?
PEET HAS A CUT ON HIS HEAD, BUT IT'S NOT DEEP.
BOSS ...!!
HUFF
HEH... NGH. SORRY, IMAI...
GASP
HANG IN THERE, BUSUJIMA!
HUFF
DON'T WORRY 'BOUT ME. A LITTLE SPIT 'N' CLEAN, AND I'LL BE GOOD AS NEW.
HUFF


I JUST REALIZED I LEFT KIRIKO BEHIND!
NO! I'M FINE!
NANA! YOU ARE WOUNDED!
VAP
HYO
!?
?!
WAKE ME WHEN WE'RE DONE, SIS!
FWomp
SO I PUT HER DOWN IN A BOX TO NAP...
SHE GOT TIRED WHEN WE REACHED THE SHOP.
B-BUT—
DON'T WORRY.
GO UP NOW, AND YOU'LL MAKE A FINE HOSTAGE.
SHAAA-
WAIT, NANA!
I HAVE TO GO FIND HER!
FW
AP!!


!
UME-KICHI.
HUH?
WE'LL STOP BUHPU AND GET KIRIKO BACK.
TAKE CARE OF BUSUJIMA FOR ME.
...?!
SHUP...!!
LEAVE BUHPU TO US!
WOOSH!!
TAP...


WAIT! YOU CAN'T—
WHAT?!
BUT YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE AN EXECUTOR!
BUT...
NO TIME TO ARGUE, ROJI! JUST GO!
THAT'S RIGHT! MUHYO ...!!
WE'VE GOT A SECRET WEAPON, AFTER ALL.
WIPE THAT GRIMACE OFF YOUR FACE.
RUSTLE RUSTLE
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS...!
...
THERE ARE FOUR MORE ARK MEMBERS OUT THERE.
AND TEEKI. IF WE'RE GOING TO SPLIT UP, THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.


HUH?
THAT SOME SORT OF DEVICE?
HO HO. I SEE.
KL
AK
SHH!
WE'VE GOT A BACKUP PLAN TOO—
TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
SWISH
SWISH


IZZZ.
WHAT'S THAT?
OLD LEAVES?
FLT
WOOSH
THAT'S RIGHT, BUHPU. FALL RIGHT INTO IT.
MY HIDDEN CIRCLE OF WARDING-NEEDLE RAIN!


JUMP!
NO! KID!
!!
SHING
FOOSH!!

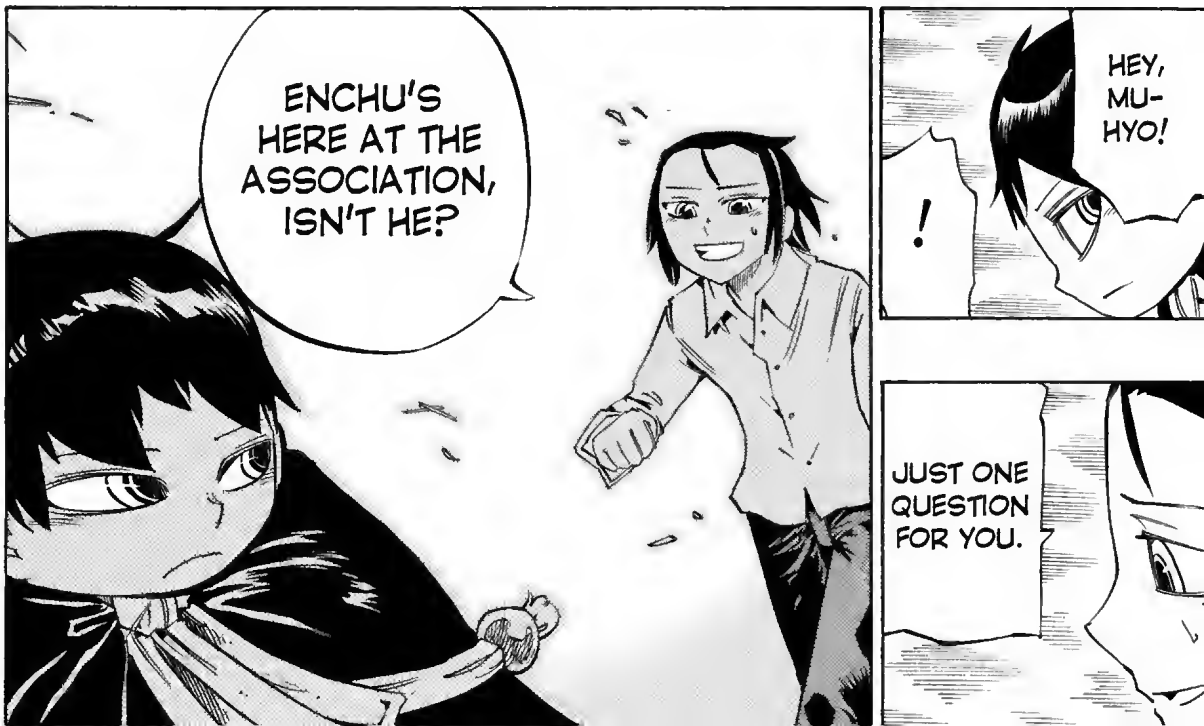

UNGH ...
AAGH ...
ZAT
ZIK
ZIKK
FWOo
HS!!


KR
A
K
!!!
UNAGH!!
GRP
SH
W
O
O
FAP
FAP
K
?!
ZNT...
ZNT


EVERY-ONE, RUN!
TMP.!!
NOW!
NAAGHH!!
ZZ
ZNT
ZNT
ZNT
GAAAH!!
ZA
TA


THAT WON'T HOLD HIM FOR LONG!
RUN FOR IT!
HOO HEE HOO HEE!
NEAT!
A HIDDEN CIRCLE!
FWOOH.
ZUIAA...
GAAH...


...RIGHT!
YEAH, WORRY ABOUT YOUR-SELVES, ROJI!
WE'LL CATCH UP LATER, PROMISE!


ENCHU'S HERE AT THE ASSOCIATION, ISN'T HE?
HEY, MU-HYO!
!
JUST ONE QUESTION FOR YOU.

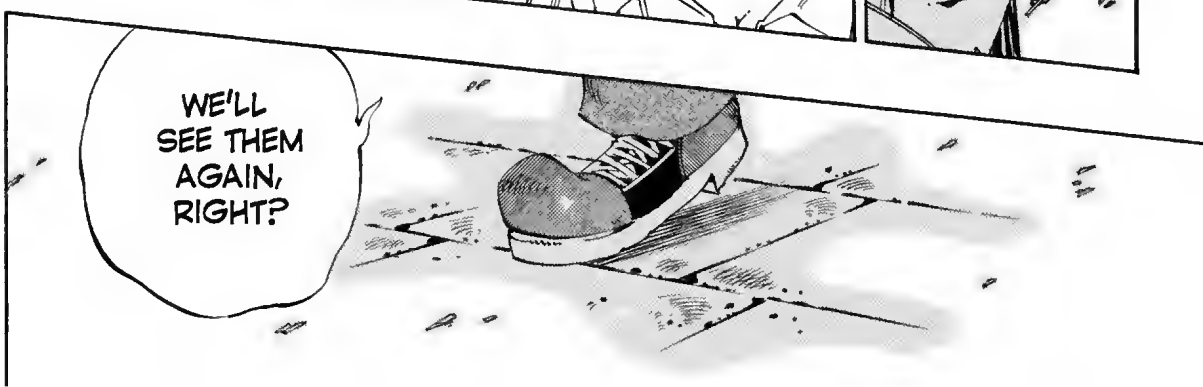

HOW'S HE DOING?
...
HEH.
ALL I HAD TO DO WAS LOOK AT YOU TO KNOW.
YOICHI KNEW ...?
...!!


GLOOMY.
SAME AS ALWAYS.


WON'T BE LONG NOW.
HMM...
YEAH.
...


YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF ENCHU'S BOOK IF ANYTHING HAPPENS!
CHIEF INVESTI-GATOR PAGE!!
ZAT
ZAT
ZAT


HEY, MUHYO...?
I KNOW...

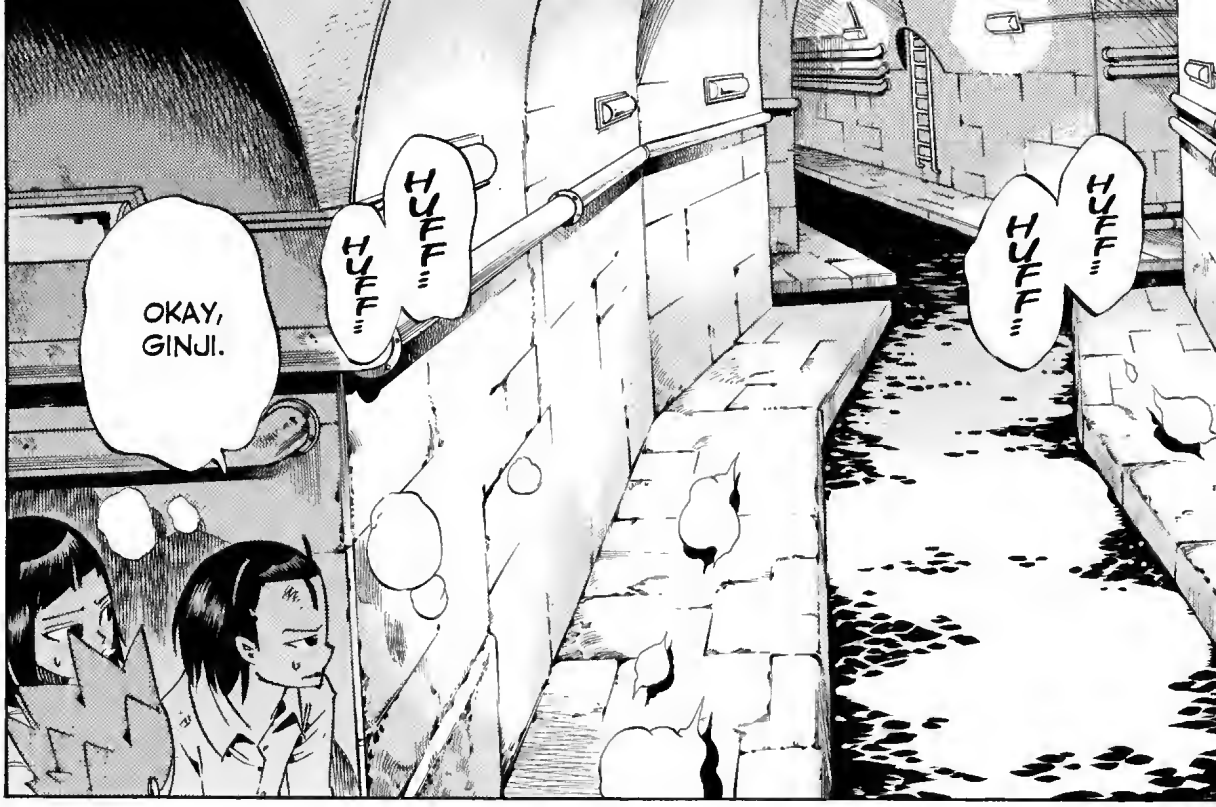

WE'LL SEE THEM AGAIN, RIGHT?

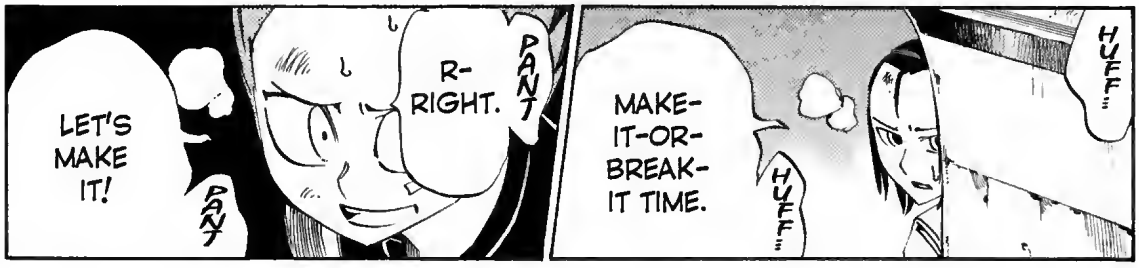

PLEASE...!!
OKAY. THEY'RE GONE.
NA
A
A
A
A
A


VUUH!
VUHHH!
I GOT A PRETTY GOOD IDEA, BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK OUR CHANCES ARE WITHOUT AN EXECUTOR?
...
GRRK!
ZIK
ZIK
I'D SAY 10 PERCENT SUCCESS.
AND THAT'S BEING OPTIMISTIC.
VAAGH!


AS YOU'VE NO DOUBT NOTICED, BUHPU'S GOT ONE OF HIS PUPPETS WITH HIM.
VW
O
O
ON
!!
FWAAH! FFF...
FFFFF...
AND HIS PUPPETS TEND TO BE PRETTY TOUGH ALL ON THEIR OWN.
SHW
O
O
O
TING
TING
TING


READ THIS WAY
NYEE.
VWAP
NYEE HEE! FUN!
YOICHI, IMAI... HERE!
A PUP-PET ...?
BUHPU'S POWERFUL IN HIS OWN RIGHT, BUT THE PUPPET IS AN UNKNOWN.
RUSTLE
RUMMAGE
OOH! THIS ONE!
WHICH WILL IT BE?
WHICH SHALL I USE?
WHICH TO STRIKE THEM BACK WITH?
HE USES A CURSE-EFFIGY TO CONTROL THEM—ONE OF TONS, SO YOU NEVER KNOW WHICH POWERS THE PUPPET WILL MANIFEST.
KI
AK
OR WHAT THAT PUPPET'LL DO WITH THEM!

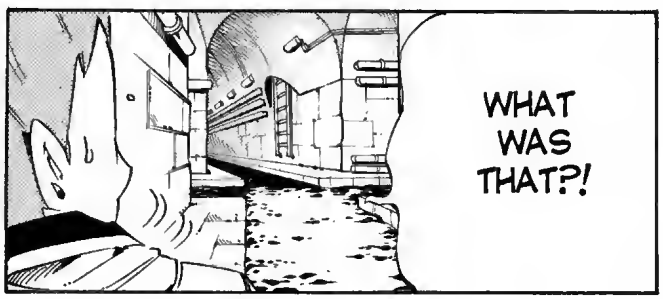

HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
OKAY, GINJI.

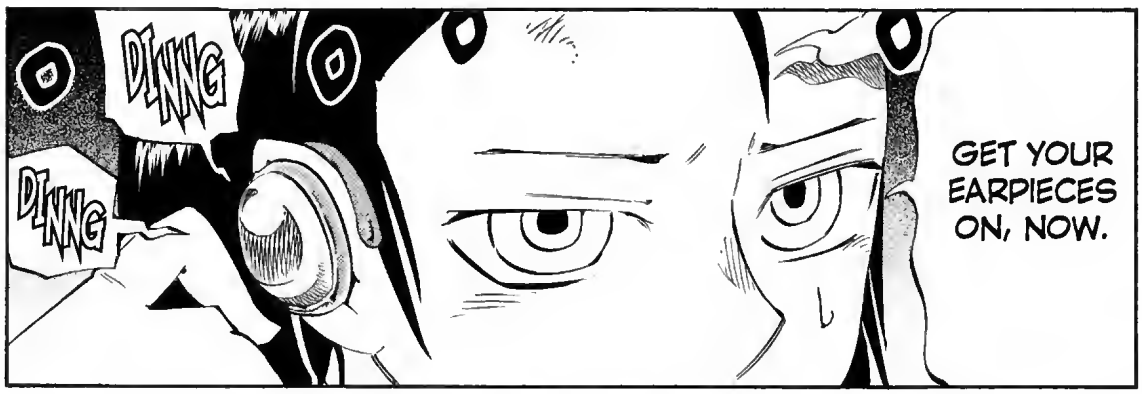

HUFF...
MAKE-IT-OR-BREAK-IT TIME.
HUFF...
PANT
R-RIGHT.
PANT
LET'S MAKE IT!

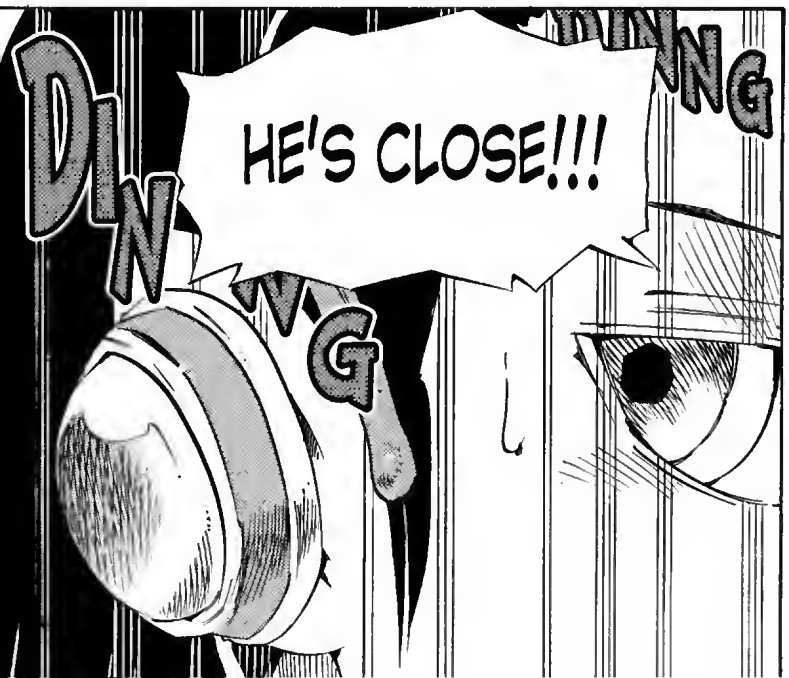

YO, IMAI.
CAN I GET A DATE IF WE WIN?
KLIK
IDIOT.
YOU MEAN IF WE WIN AND SURVIVE.
KLIK
WOOSH
RIGH—


!!
FW
IP!!


DING
DING
...
NG
BOTH OF YOU...


WHAT WAS THAT?!


DINNG
DINNG
GET YOUR EARPIECES ON, NOW.


DI
NG
HE'S CLOSE!!!


IT'S RINGING! SO...


!!

A PLEASANT SURPRISE!

THIS IS SOMETHING I RECEIVED FROM A READER SOME TIME AGO. LOOKS LIKE JUST A CUTE PICTURE, BUT GET THIS! THERE WAS A PIECE OF RUBBER IN THE SAME ENVELOPE—IT WAS ALL BUMPY, WITH WHAT LOOKED LIKE SCULPTING-KNIFE MARKS IN IT... HUH? IT'S A STAMP?



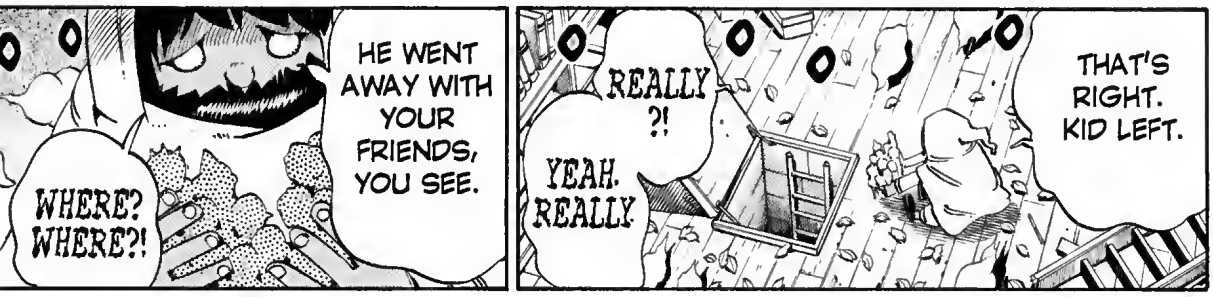
THE SECOND PRINTING!

"WHOA!!"

"IT'S A STAMP! THIS POSTCARD'S A STAMP!!! WOW!"

IT WAS SUCH A SURPRISE, I HAD TO PUT IT IN HERE. THANKS, "NOTSU-SAN," FOR GIVING ME THE ORIGINAL STAMP AND PERMISSION TO PRINT THE IMAGE.


KEH TA TA TA! BUT KID'S GONE! GONE!
KLAK KLAK
NON NON NOOON! I WANT IN ON KID! MOI!
I'M NEXT. I'M NEXT!
BYOK
HEY! IS IT MY TURN YET?!
ARTICLE 116
WARNING BELLS


WHERE? WHERE?!
HE WENT AWAY WITH YOUR FRIENDS, YOU SEE.
REALLY ?!
YEAH. REALLY.
THAT'S RIGHT. KID LEFT.


ZA
A
A
A
A
INTO THE SEWERS. TO KILL.

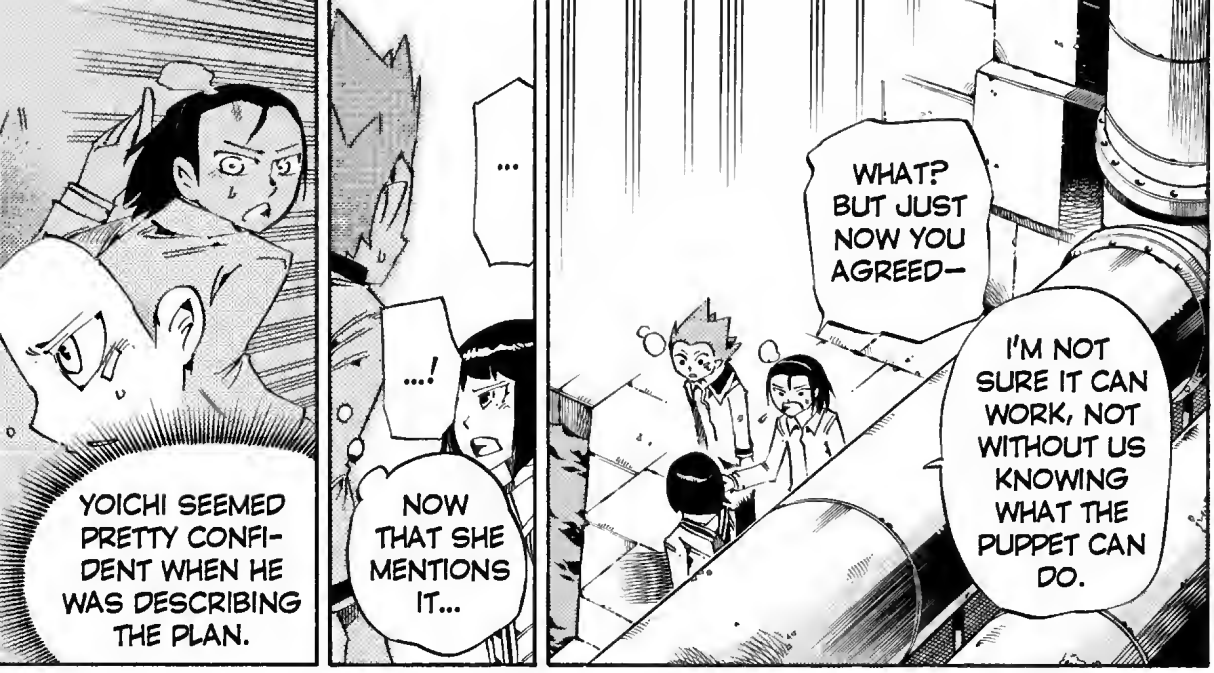

TMP
HE HASN'T GOTTEN THIS FAR THEN.
RIGHT.
TMP!!
TING...
I CAN HARDLY HEAR IT NOW!
HEY, THE RINGING!
TINNG...

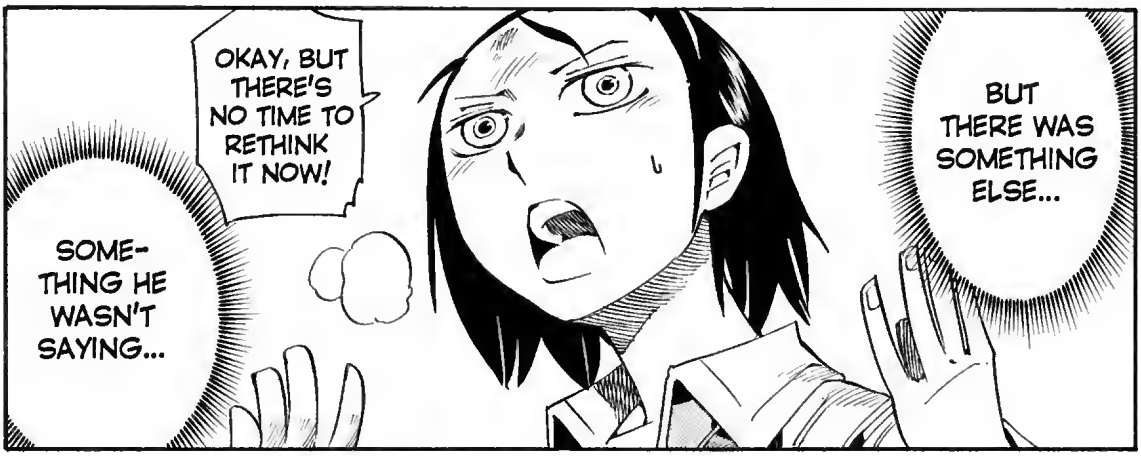

ARTICLE 116
WARNING BELLS
ZA
A
A
A
A
A
OUR LAST LINE OF DEFENSE!


WE KNOW WHERE HE IS, THANKS TO THESE.
NO WAY HE CAN SLIP BY.
THEN WE'RE STOPPING HIM HERE!
WHERE ARE WE?
THIS IS WHERE THE SEWER LINES MEET.
MUHYO AND THE REST CAME THROUGH HERE.
HEY, THAT'S RIGHT!
YOU CAN TELL DISTANCE PRETTY WELL WITH THESE TOO.
HOW'S IT WORK?
IT'S A MAGNETISM DETECTOR.
REMEMBER THE HIDDEN CIRCLE I SET UP? EACH OF THOSE LEAVES WAS MAGNETIZED.
THAT'S WHAT THESE EARPIECES ARE PICKING UP.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THESE WOULD BE GOOD FOR DEALING WITH HALF-GHASTS.
PRETTY COOL, HUH?
WOW!
HE SET THAT TRAP UP AT THE LAST MINUTE TOO!

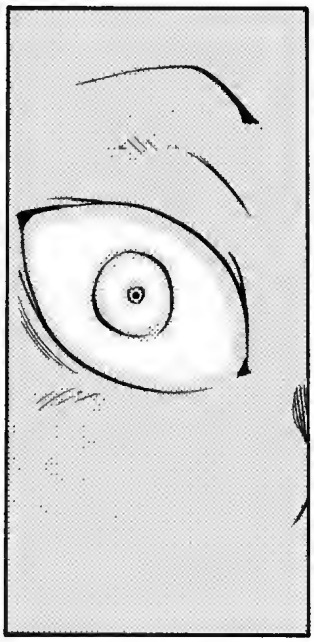

HE IS THE MOST POWERFUL JUDGE, JUST LIKE THEY SAY!
OKAY!
RUSTLE
YET HE MADE A DUAL-PURPOSE TRAP WITHIN THAT SHORT TIME FRAME?!
THERE WAS LESS THAN HALF A MINUTE BETWEEN BUHPU'S ATTACK AND WHEN WE WENT DOWN THE HATCH!
PLUS WE HAVE JUDGE IMAI, ONE OF THE BEST COMBAT-ANTS IN THE ASSOCIATION.
B-BMP
B-BMP
WE JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO WIN THIS!

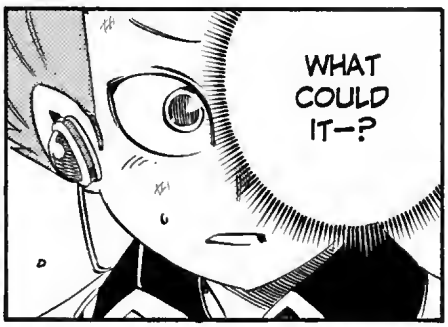

IT'S TOO RECKLESS.
THE PLAN YOU WORKED UP ON OUR WAY HERE.
HER WIN RECORD IN ACTUAL COMBAT IS LEGEND-ARY.
SOME-THING'S NOT SITTING WELL WITH ME.
HOLD ON, YOICHI.

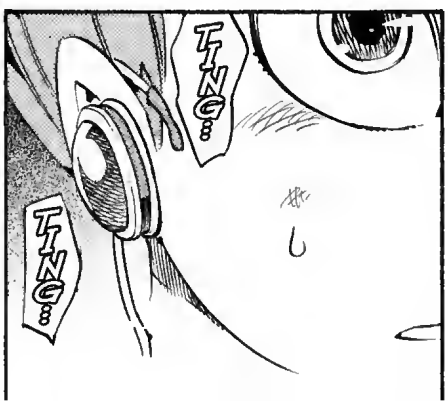

YOICHI SEEMED PRETTY CONFI-DENT WHEN HE WAS DESCRIBING THE PLAN.
...
...!
NOW THAT SHE MENTIONS IT...
WHAT? BUT JUST NOW YOU AGREED—
I'M NOT SURE IT CAN WORK, NOT WITHOUT US KNOWING WHAT THE PUPPET CAN DO.


SOME-THING HE WASN'T SAYING...
OKAY, BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO RETHINK IT NOW!
BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING ELSE...


ZW
A
A
A
TING...
TING...
NN

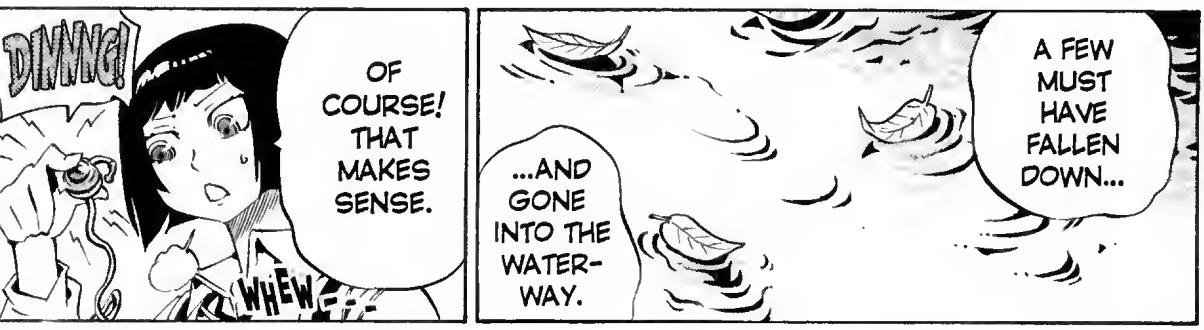


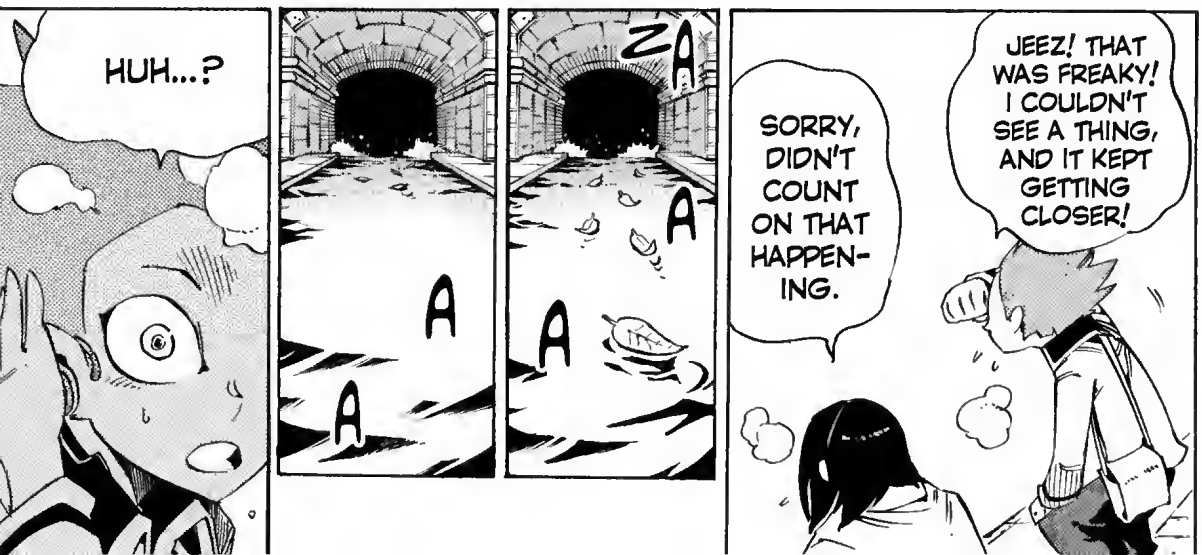

WHAT COULD IT—?


TING...
TING...


WOOSH
DING
DING
DING
DING
FWOOSH
DING
DING
DING
HUH...?
WHAT THE-?!
IT'S GETTING CLOSER!!


JUST LEFTOVER PARTS OF THE ANTENNA.
WHEW.
FWIP
W O O O S H
PLIT
HEH. FIGURES.
FLIT
!!

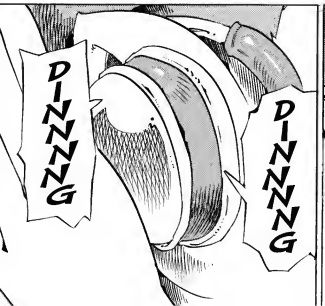

DINNNG!
OF COURSE! THAT MAKES SENSE.
WHEW---
A FEW MUST HAVE FALLEN DOWN...
...AND GONE INTO THE WATER-WAY.

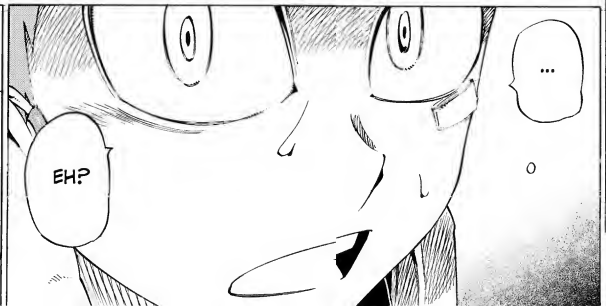

HUH...?
A
A
A
A
JEEZ! THAT WAS FREAKY! I COULDN'T SEE A THING, AND IT KEPT GETTING CLOSER!
SORRY, DIDN'T COUNT ON THAT HAPPEN-ING.


DNK...
NNGH...

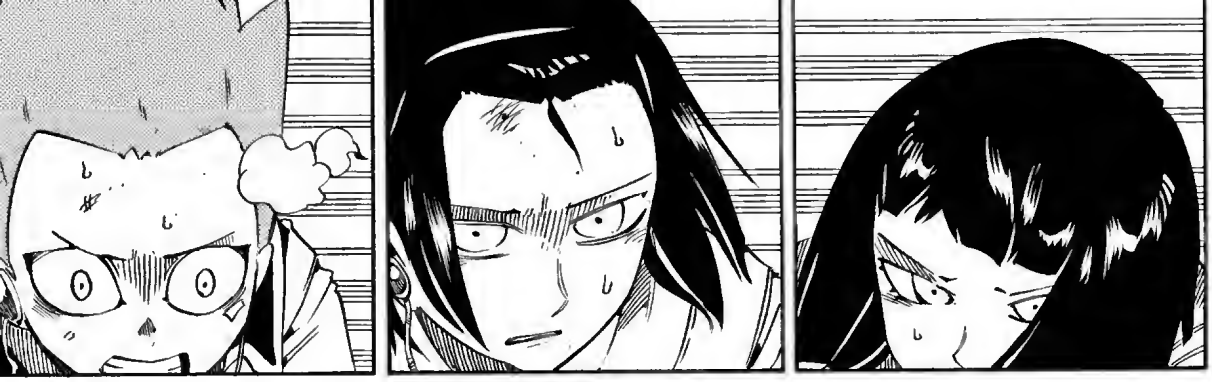

TOK
FWAP
DNK
ZAK
FUP FUP FUP
FWAP


IT'S RING-ING AGAIN!
NNNNNN
AND AGAIN!

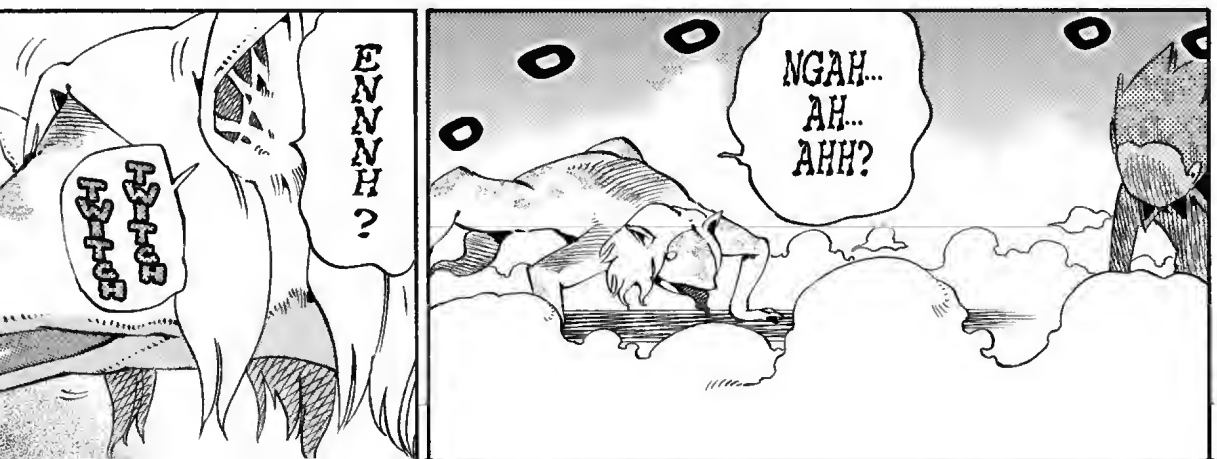

DINNNG
DINNNG


EH?
...

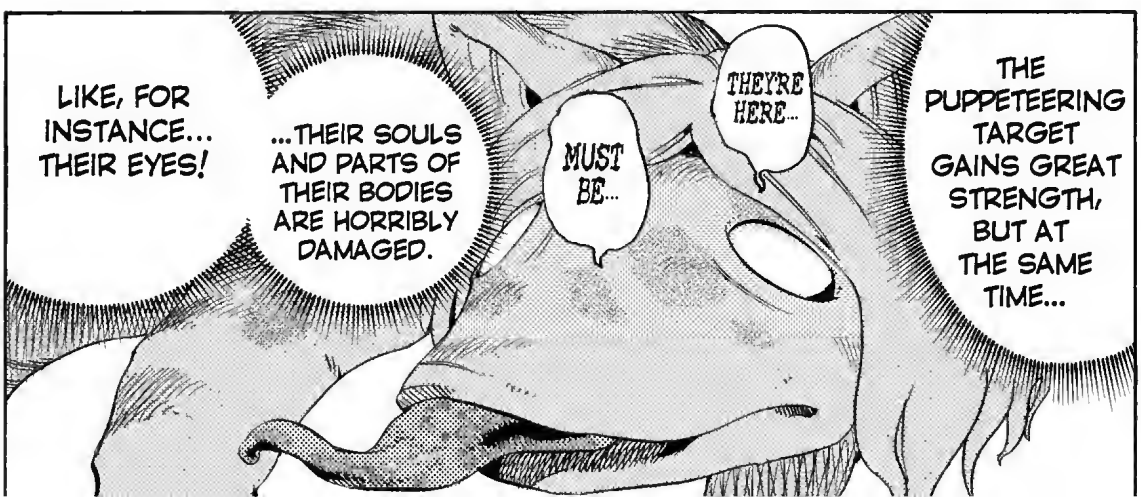

KRR RK-.-.!!
YI!
YI...
KRRK
FWAP!!
NGAHH!!




SHL
URK
NGEAAAAGH...


ENNNH?
TWITCH TWITCH
NGAH... AH... AHH?


A A A
SHOOooo
A A A
EVERYTHING'S HAPPENING LIKE YOICHI SAID!
PANT... PANT...
GULP
AHA!
TWITCH TWITCH
TWITCH TWITCH
SHUF SHUF...
AANH?
WHERE'D ...THEY... GO..?


LIKE, FOR INSTANCE... THEIR EYES!
...THEIR SOULS AND PARTS OF THEIR BODIES ARE HORRIBLY DAMAGED.
MUST BE...
THEY'RE HERE...
THE PUPPETEERING TARGET GAINS GREAT STRENGTH, BUT AT THE SAME TIME...

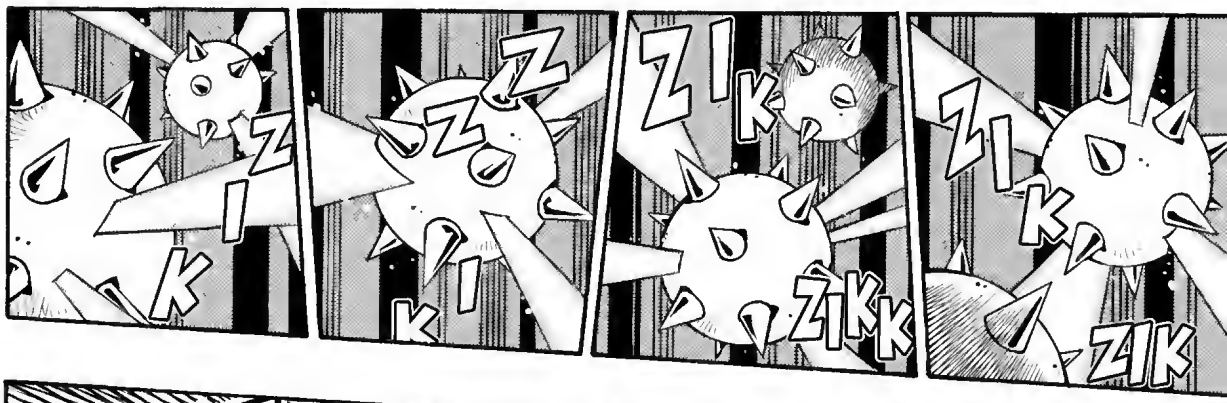

WE'LL TURN ITS STRENGTH AGAINST IT, GINJI!
!!
GULP
THAT'S THE KEY!
IF I SO MUCH AS TWITCH A FINGER, IT'LL HONE IN.
THIS ONE LOST ITS SIGHT...BUT ITS HEARING IS AUG-MENTED!
NOD
GLANCE
CAN YOU DO IT?!
SHUP
ZOIK


THERE!
VOON
!!
ZAK
ZZAT
THERE YOU ARE!


VAT VAT
VAT!!!
!!


KZ
GAH!
KZ OK!!
KOEF!
ZZ
OK
SORRY, GINJI.
BUT IT WAS WORTH IT!!
THESE ARTIFACTS ONLY WORK IN WATER.
BUT THEY WORK REALLY WELL.
BL
UB


...
LODES!
FSST...
BLAST-
ING
...


ZIK
ZZZ
ZIK
ZIK


ZHOM
!!
UNH?


PAK PAK PAK
UNH...
UNGH...
PAK PAK PAK PAK PAK
WAUGH!
WAAAAAGH!
I'M MELTING!
MELLLLTING!
NOOOOOOOO!


HNN ...!!
THERE!
KRAKKLE
KRAK
SHWA
AAA

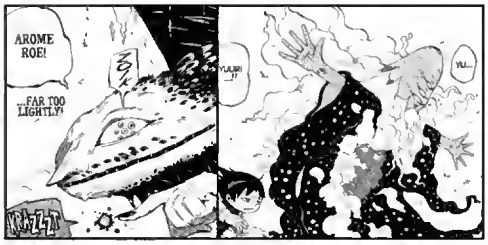

SPL
OK
UNGH...
NGHH...
WERE YOU PAYING NO ATTENTION AT ALL?!
!!
NOOO...!
UNNGH...
SHH!
HEY, YOICHI. DID THAT REALLY—?
KRIK...
ZZZIK...
SUPPOSE IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE.
ZHUP...
FOOL!
WHAT A WASTE...
BUT... BUT I—
HE'S COMING!
...!!


IF WE STRIKE AT THAT VERY MOMENT, OUR CHANCES SOAR!
WHEN HIS PUPPETS ARE IN TROUBLE, BUHPU SWITCHES CURSE-EFFIGIES!
IMAI!!
!
OH. I GET IT.
SHUP
HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT, YOICHI.
NNNUP

Q: IF YOU'VE CONTRACTED WITH AN ENVOY ONCE, DO YOU HAVE TO CONTRACT WITH THEM AGAIN TO CALL THEM A SECOND TIME?

-Y.S., OSAKA

A: WELL, YES, BUT TO BE MORE PRECISE, NOT REALLY. (?) ERM... THIS NEVER REALLY COMES OUT IN THE STORY, BUT YOU START BY EXECUTING A REGISTRATION CONTRACT TO REGISTER AN ENVOY WITH A PARTICULAR BOOK OF MAGIC LAW. THAT'S WHAT YOU SEE IN THE FIGHT WITH MUHYO (YUURI) VS. PLUTO (SEE ILLUSTATION 1). ONCE THEY'RE REGISTERED, YOU CAN CALL THEM (SEE ILLUSTRATION 2).



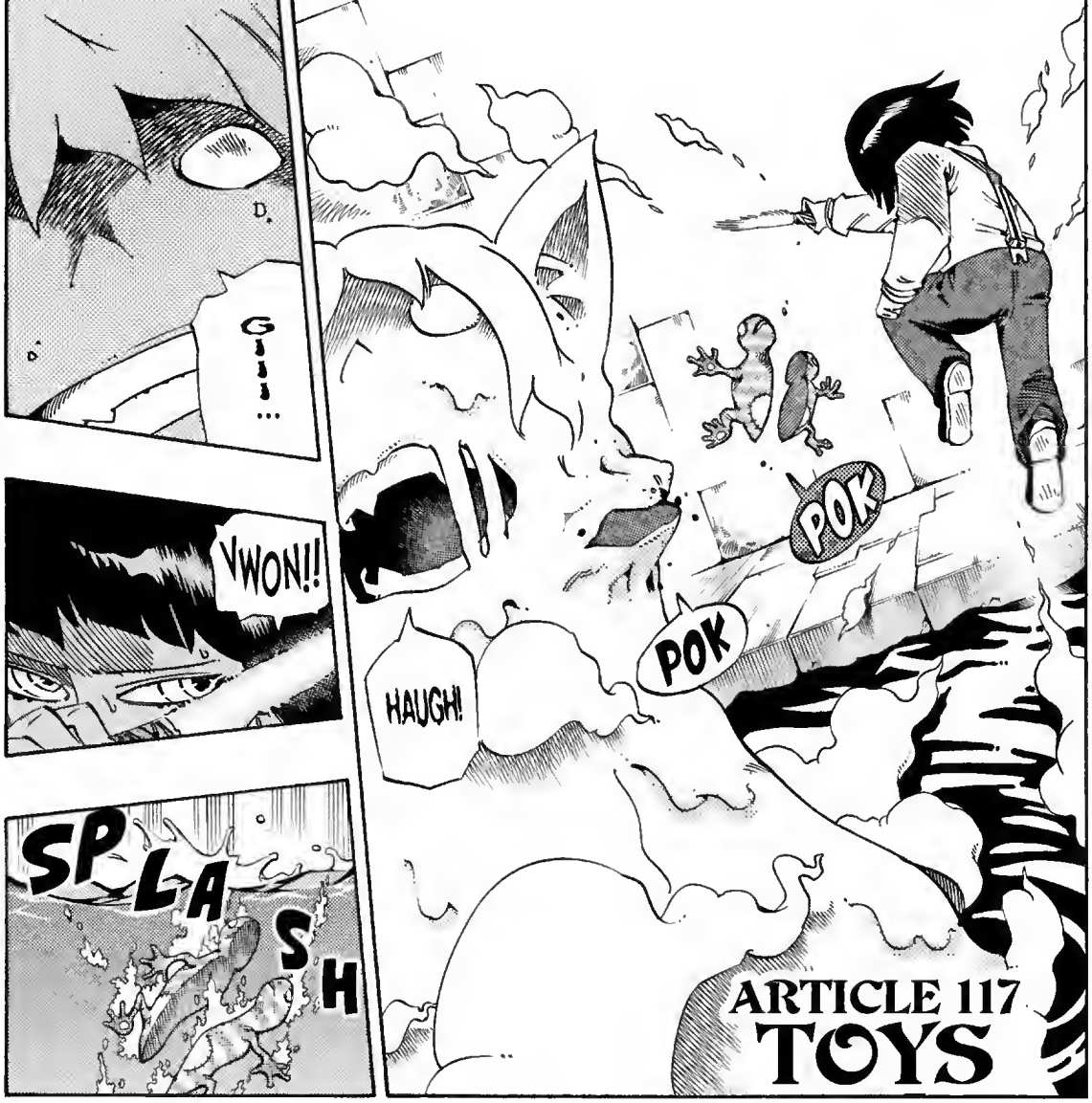
⬆Illus.①



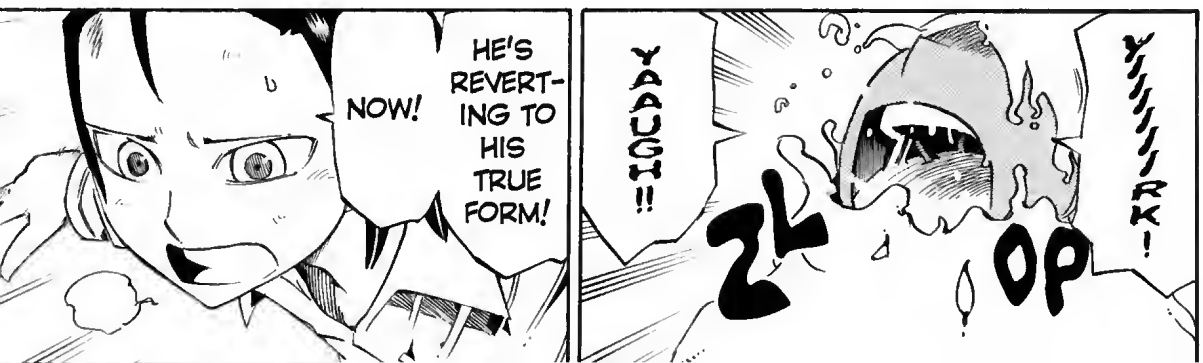
➡Illus.②

NOW WHEN YOU WANT TO CALL AN ENVOY, YOU NEED A SPELL OF SUMMONING. THAT'S WHAT THE MAGIC LAW PRACTITIONERS CALL AN "ENVOY CONTRACT." THAT'S WHAT THE WORDS THAT MUHYO WAS MUMBLING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST SOPHIE WERE. FOR YOUR TYPICAL EXECUTOR, GORYO INCLUDED, YOU NEED AN ENVOY CONTRACT FOR JUST ABOUT EVERY ENVOY YOU SUMMON. HOWEVER, MUHYO ONLY REALLY NEEDS A CONTRACT WHEN HE'S DEALING WITH SOMETHING OF ADMIRAL CLASS OR HIGHER.




Gi...
VWON!!
SPLASH
HAUGH!
POK
POK
ARTICLE 117
TOYS

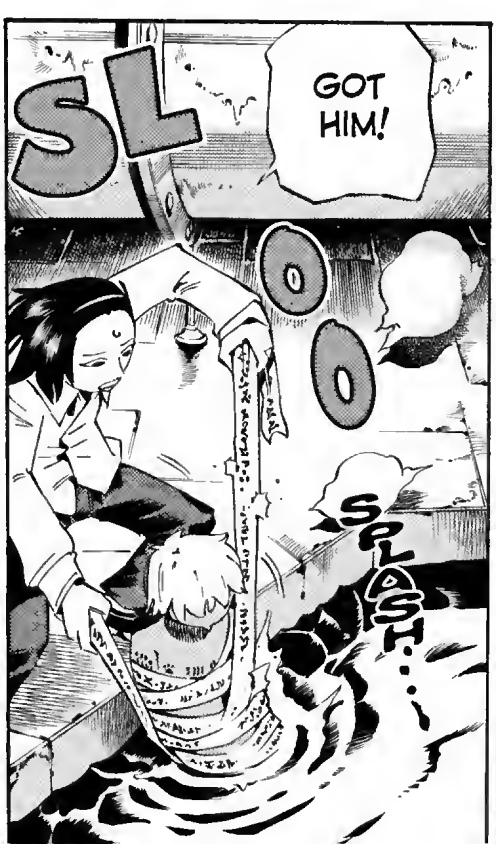

OUUUUUGH!!
VOP
VOP!!
PSHOOO
GYAAAUGH!


NOW!
HE'S REVERTING TO HIS TRUE FORM!
YAUGH!!
OP
YYYYYRK!


...
HRM...


NAW, KID'S JUST A PUSHOVER.
KRIK
KRIK
KRIK
THAT JUDGE IS BAD NEWS!


UNNGH ...
ZZAK
ZZAK
ZZAK


SL
GOT HIM!
SPLOSH...


HEE HOO HOO.


HM, KID?
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT?

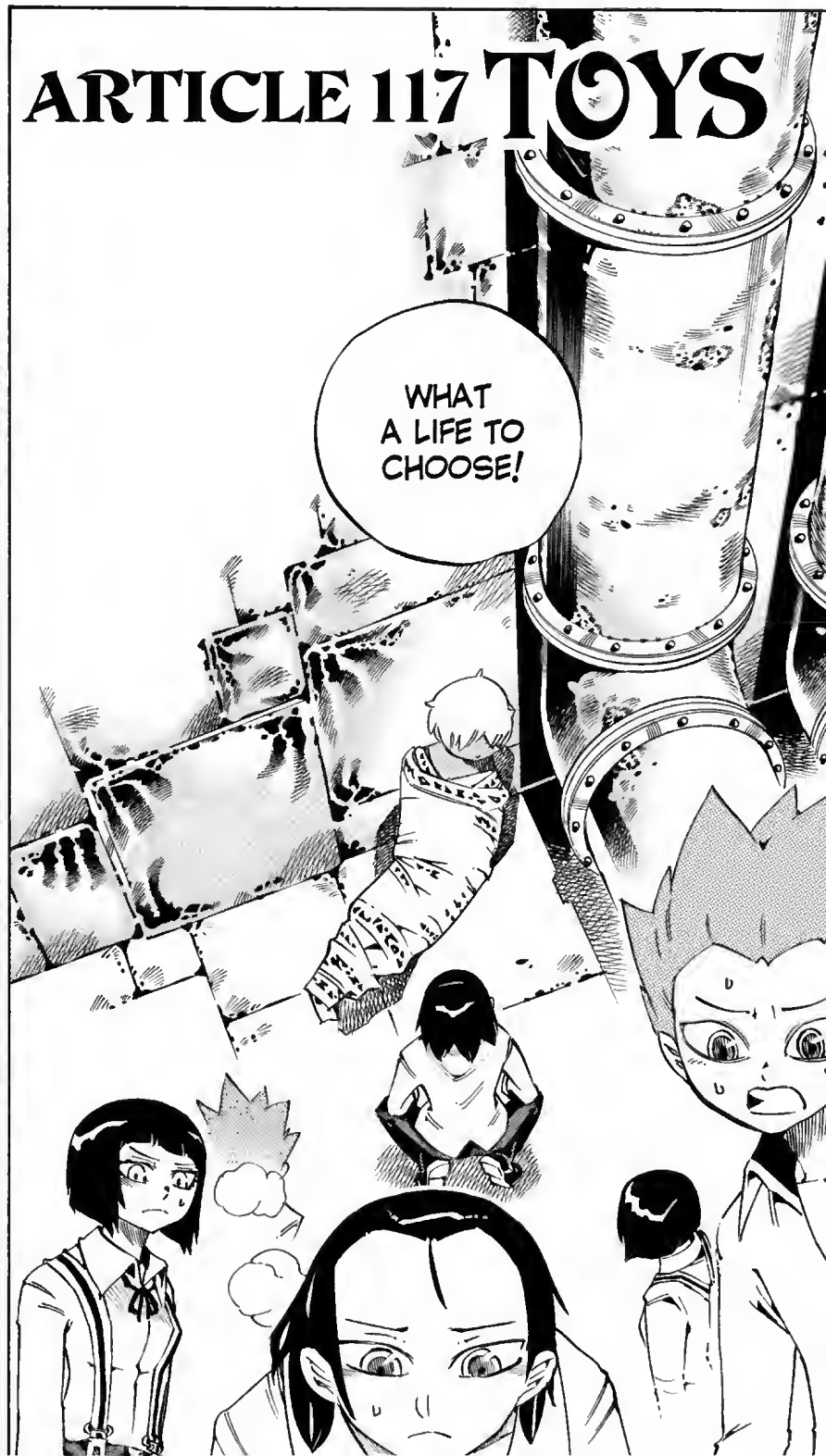

THERE.
THAT SHOULD HOLD HIM FOR A WHILE.
KK
KRIK!!
PHEW. THAT WENT WELL.
FUMP
KOFF
YEAH... GOOD GOING, YOICHI.
KOFF KOFF KOFF
HEH. SORRY FOR DOUBT-ING YOU.
EH HEH HEH!
PLOOP
IT WAS THANKS TO YOUR DIVER-SION, GINJI!
ER, YOU'D BETTER REST UP.
KOFF KOFF
STILL... I DON'T THINK HE WAS USING ALL THE EFFIGY'S POWER.
YEAH. IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE BUHPU'S CONTROLLING HIM EITHER.
!
WITH THE EFFIGY GONE, HIS EYESIGHT WILL PROBABLY RETURN.
VWIP
SO THAT MEANS ...
WIPE...



ARTICLE 117 TOYS

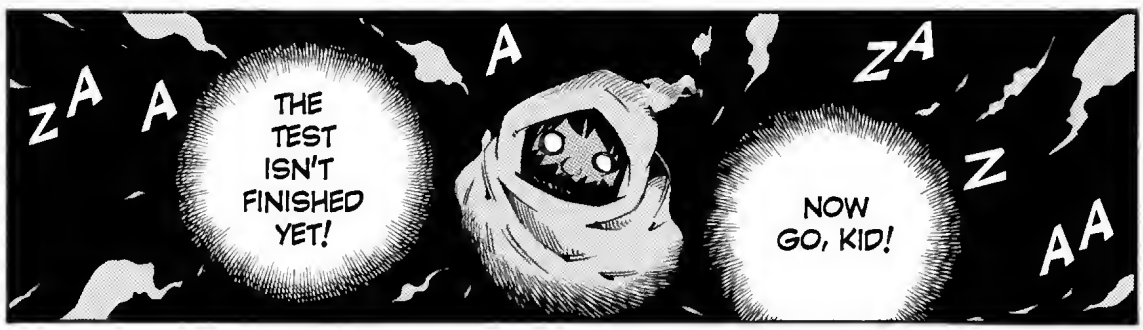







AAAGH!
AAAH!
B-BMp...
UNZH!!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THOSE MONTHS OF TRAINING?
SO THIS IS IT? REALLY?
B-BMp
UNN ... AAH ...
DO NOT SPEAK. THEY CAN HEAR YOU.
AND WHAT ABOUT THE ONES WHO KILLED IVY AND MICK?
OH YES.
B
MP.!
GAAAAUGH!
KHOOOO
MURDERERS !!!
MURDER ...
IVY... THEY...
MICK...
SSS...


HEE HOO!
SIMPLE IS BEST FOR A PUPPET.
GOOD!
YES.
THAT'S RIGHT.
HATE THEM!
KILL...
KILL!!
GRH...!


ZA A
THE TEST ISN'T FINISHED YET!
A
ZA
NOW GO, KID!
Z
AA


WHAT'S THAT?
?!
RAH
K...
...!!
H
K... RER...!!


WOOSH
!
HE'S MUMBLING SOMETHING ...


!!!
WHA—?!
SH
ZHOO


IS IT...
...A PERSON?!
TMP TMP
A A A A
WHAT'S IT DOING HERE?!
A BODY... LET'S PULL IT OUT AND—
A A
LOOK!
!
TWITCH
A A


I'LL GO!
BUT UNCONSCIOUS!
TMP
I-IT'S ALIVE!
KOFF!
SPLOOSH
RIGHT!
IMAI, YOU WATCH THE PUPPET!
ZAA
ZA
YOU ALL RIGHT?!
HEY!
SPLASH
SPLOOSH
I THINK I HEARD HIM MUMBLING SOMETHING ...
...


ZA
AAA
NOTHING LOOKS ODD, BUT...
HANG IN THERE!
HEY ...
THE BIND-ING'S ...!
TWITCH
CAN YOU TALK ?
RUSTLE....


GRIK...
HEY!
ZWOOO
DOK...
HELLO ...
I'M IVY!


IVY!
IVY!
IVY!
IVY!
IVY!
IVY!
IVY!
IVY!
WH
...
WHAT
?!
!!

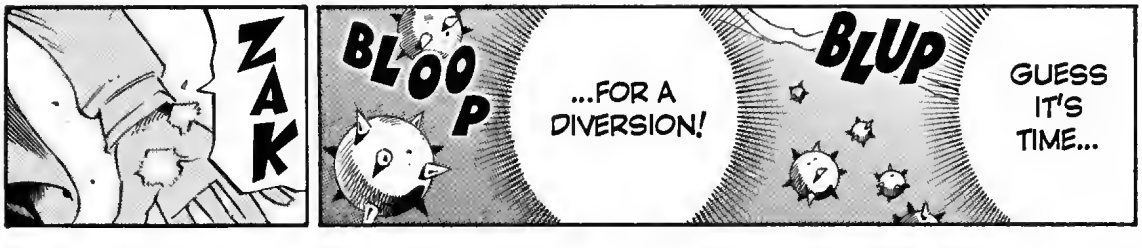

!!
UNK!
KER
CH
KI
!!
...


...AM—
...I...
AND...
YOICHI!!


DZ
I
GN
MICK!!
YO!
HEH HEH HEH HEH!
DOK
LONG TIME NO FIGHT!
KR
YOU'RE ...
... BACK!
RIK
G- G- GUYS!
FLIT
FLIT
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!
DOK
DOK
DOK


KR
RI
K
HE KILLED ME!
AND THESE PUPPETS ...
WHEN DID HE SWAP OUT THE EFFIGY ?!
HE SPLIT INTO THREE ?!
KA
GORYO KILLED ME!
ZZZ
ING
THOK
THEY'RE LIKE THE REAL THING!!

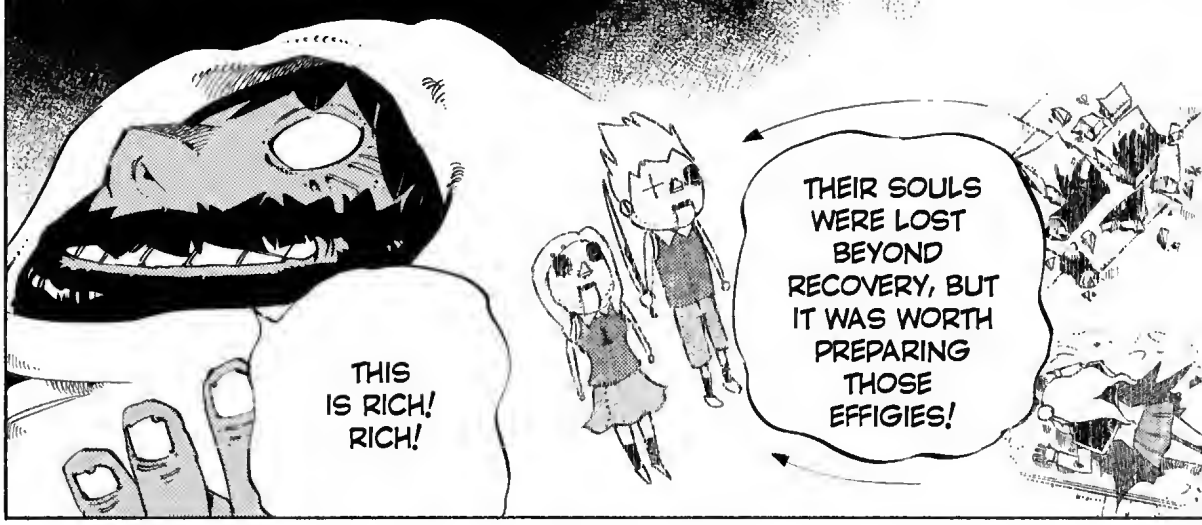

TAKING HER OUT SOLVES NOTHING.
TRY TO BREATHE.
THAT CUT DEEP.
CRAP ...
TEE HEE.
YOICHI ?!


ZAK
BLOOP
...FOR A DIVERSION!
BLUP
GUESS IT'S TIME...

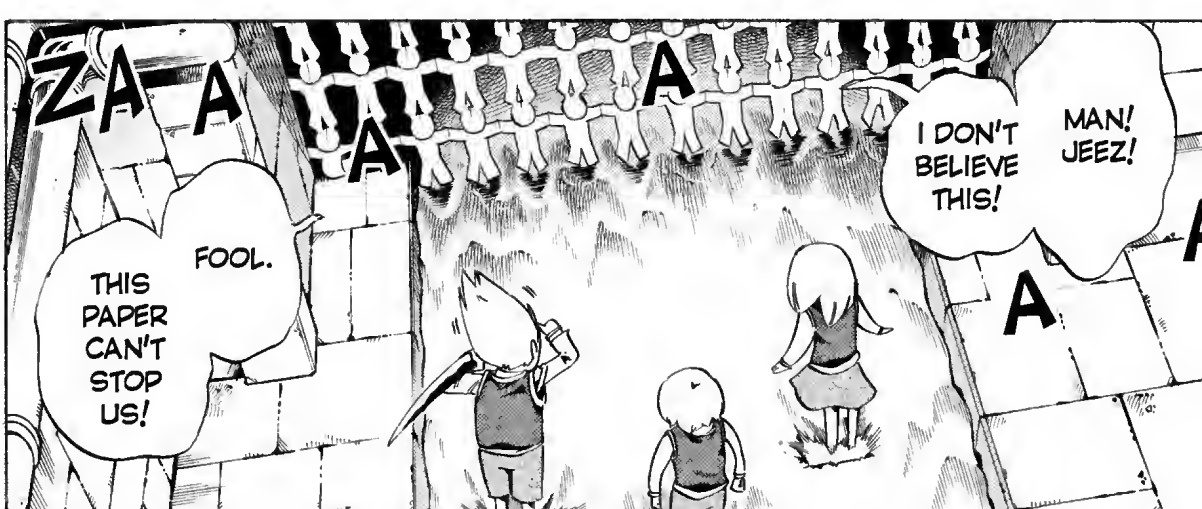

ZUD
?!!


TMP!!
VWOOSH
EEK!
HUNH?!
ZA T!!
FZZAP
KLANG
A PORT-CULLIS OF PAPER DOLLS!
FLIT FLIT


AH!!!
AND NOW EVEN THE DEAD RISE!
YES! AS MY PUPPETS !!!
...
ZZZIK000!
ZIK.
BWAAAH!
QUIVER
QUIVER
SNIFF. EEEEYH.
AH WELL.
HOO HOO HEE! SO QUICK TO RUN!
SUCH RESULTS SO SOON!
AND THEY HAD NO IDEA!!
IT WAS GLORIOUS!
THE EFFIGIES WERE HIDDEN IN KID'S BODY!

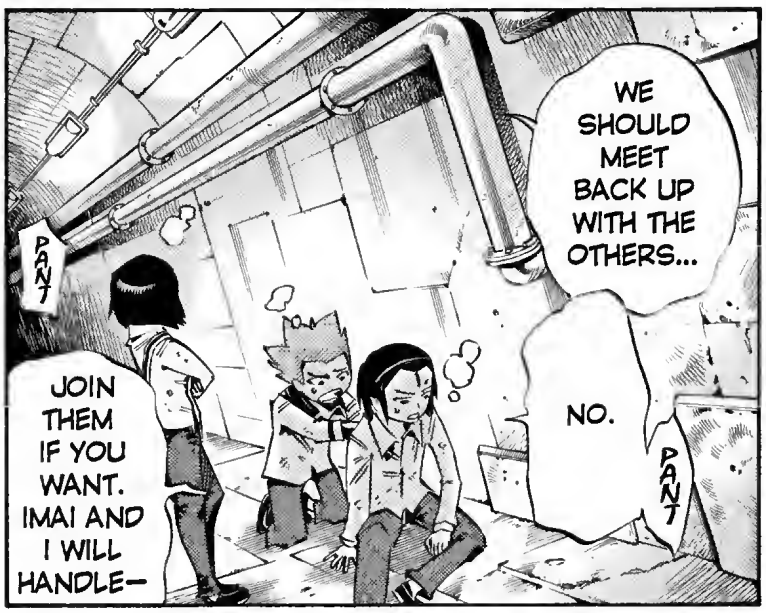


LET'S SEE IF MY MEMORY MANIPULATIONS WENT AS MARVELOUSLY!






OH.
KR
SH··!!


PANT
JOIN THEM IF YOU WANT. IMAI AND I WILL HANDLE—
NO.
PANT
WE SHOULD MEET BACK UP WITH THE OTHERS...

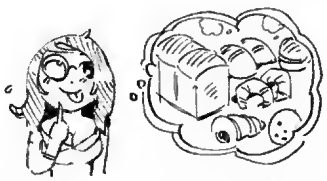

HUF··
DRIP DRIP
THAT'S A BAD CUT...
HUF··


SL
UMP
JUDGES!
THAT'S HOW WE'LL PROVE IT TO ENCHU.
PANT
BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE AN EXECUTOR.
PANT
WE NEED BOTH OF US!
YEAH, YOICHI! I MEAN, C'MON!
WHY PUSH YOURSELF LIKE—?
ARE YOU INSANE?! YOU CAN'T FIGHT LIKE THAT!

Q1: WHICH OF BIKO'S BAKED BREADS DOES RIO LIKE THE MOST?
Q2: WHICH OF RIO'S GRATINS DOES BIKO LIKE THE MOST?
Q3: WHICH MAGIC LAW DOES MUHYO LIKE THE MOST?

-Y.S., OSAKA

A1:



SHE SAYS SHE LIKES THEM ALL, BUT I HAVE IT ON GOOD AUTHORITY THAT THE RARE AND HIGHLY PRIZED CHOCOLATE TWISTS ARE A FAVORITE.

A2:



SHE WOULD EAT THEM ALL RIGHT NOW IF SHE COULD, BUT IF SHE HAD TO PICK JUST ONE, IT'D BE THE "RIO SPECIAL." I ASKED WHAT FLAVOR THAT WAS, AND ALL I HEARD WAS BIKO'S STOMACH GROWLING. MUST BE GOOD!

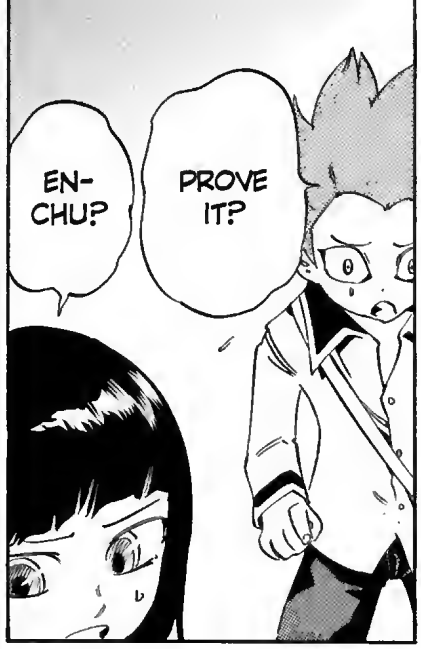
A3:



I DON'T KNOW IF "LIKE" IS THE RIGHT WORD, BUT MUHYO DOES SEEM FOND OF THE NIGHT TRAIN, ADMIRAL BELOW AND YUURI. HIS REASON? "IT'S A RUSH..." NOW I WISH I HADN'T ASKED...

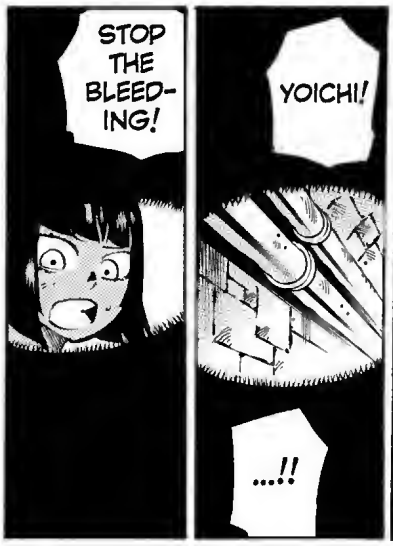
ARTICLE 118
BACKUP PLAN

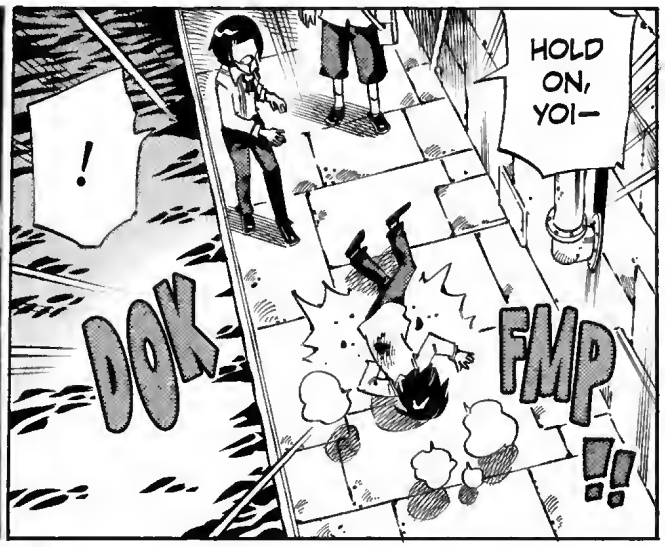


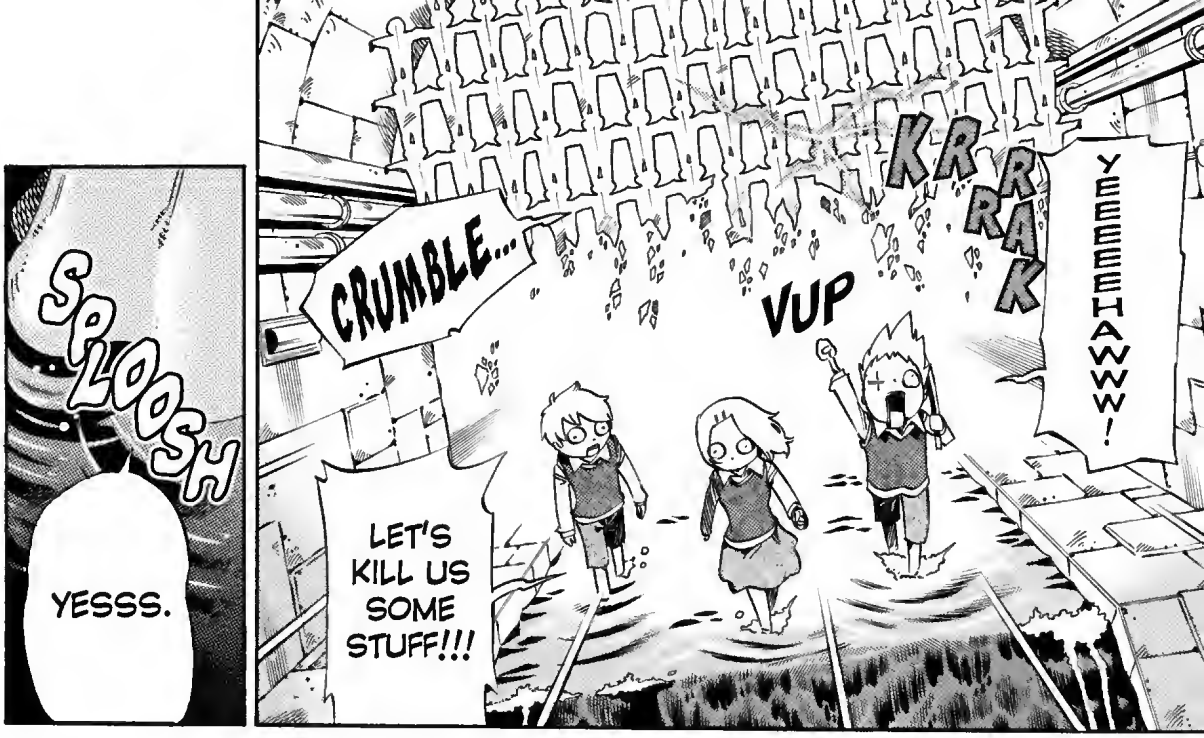








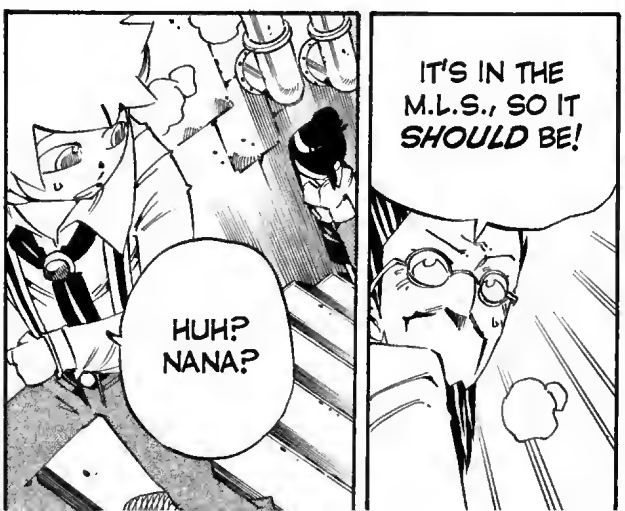


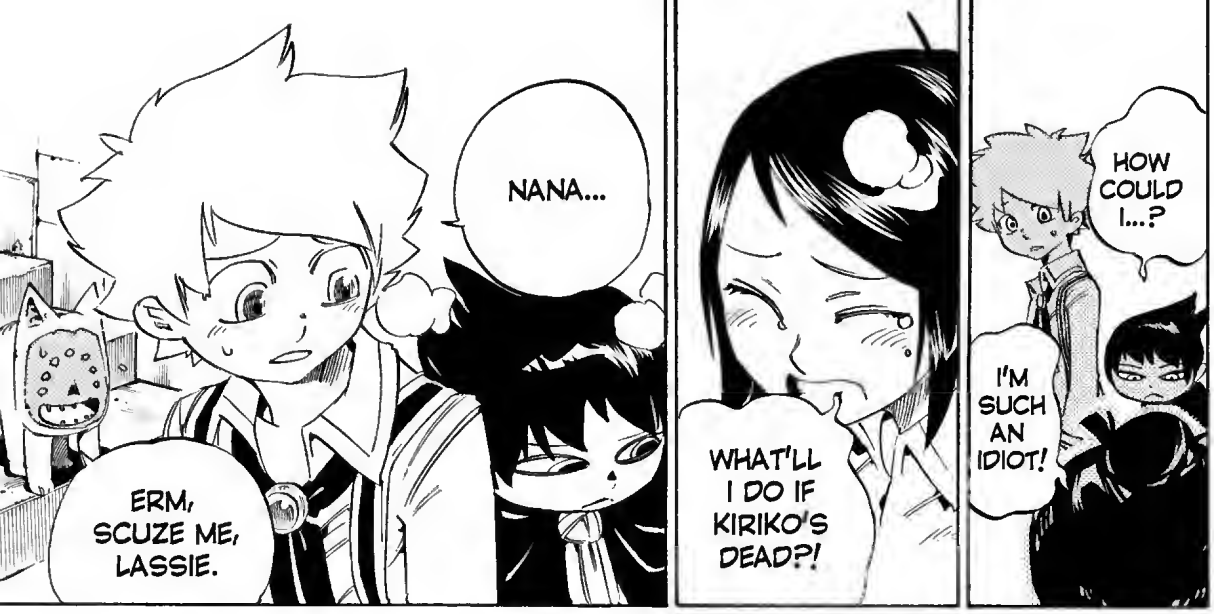

SPLOOSH
YESSS.
LET'S KILL US SOME STUFF!!!
CRUMBLE...
VUP
KRRRAK
YEEEEEHAWWW!

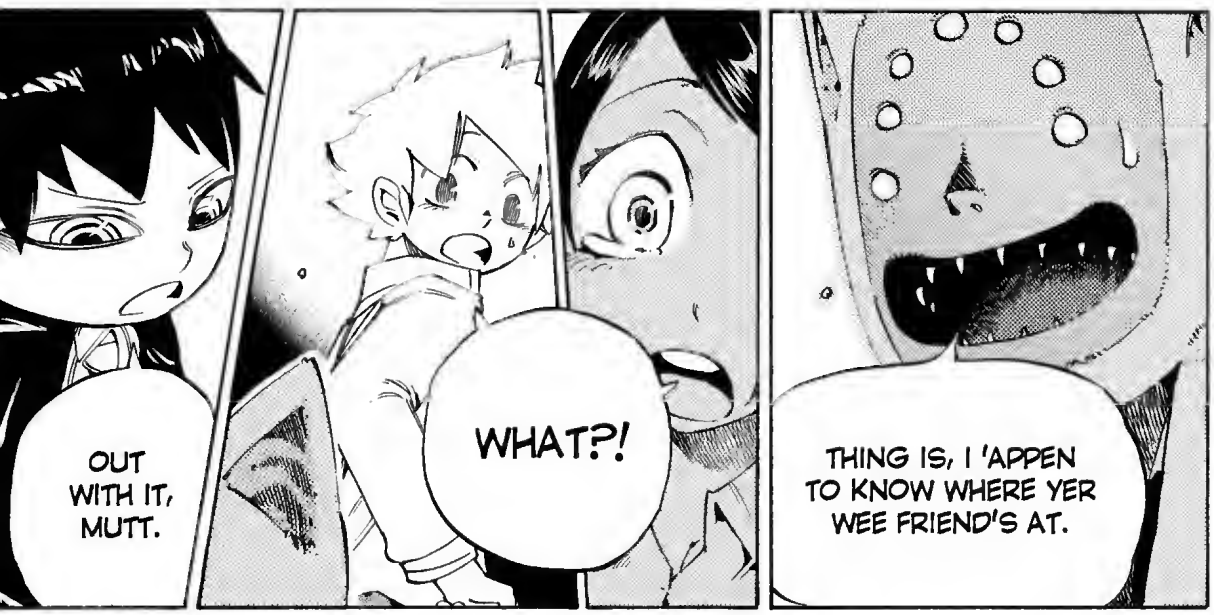

LET'S END THIS!
ZA
A
A
A
STOP
'BOUT TIME!

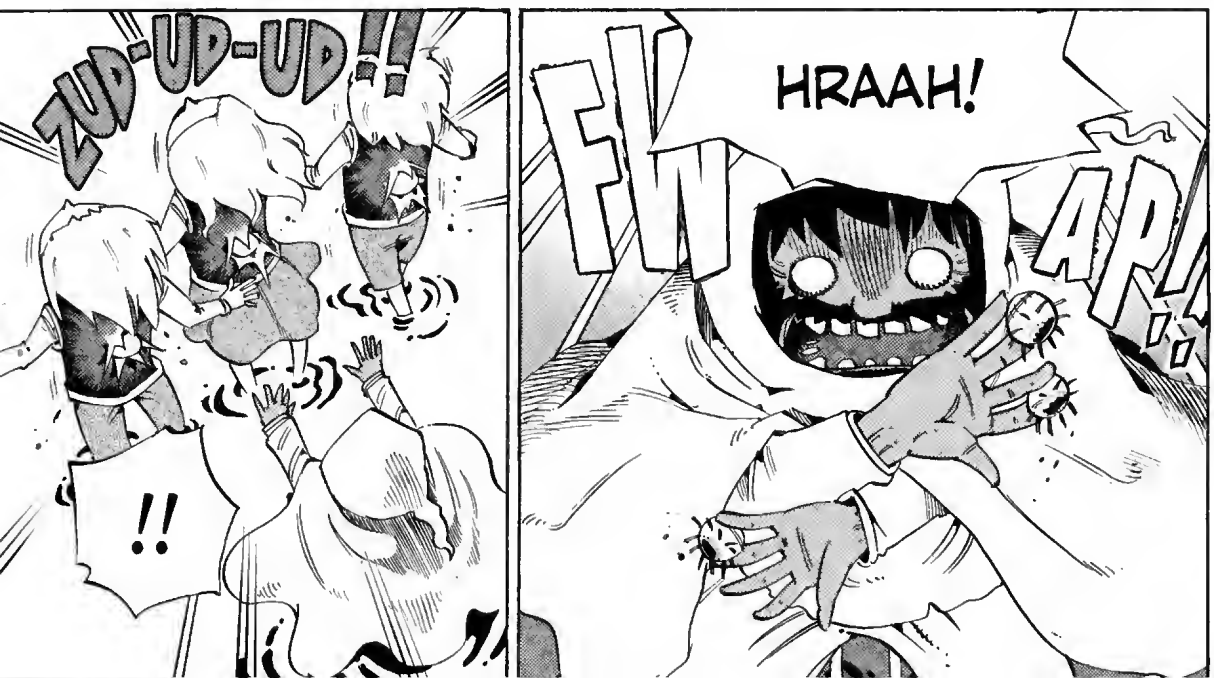

YOU SURE IT'LL BE SAFE?
MMMPH... READING AND CLIMBING STAIRS EQUALS MOTION SICKNESS ...

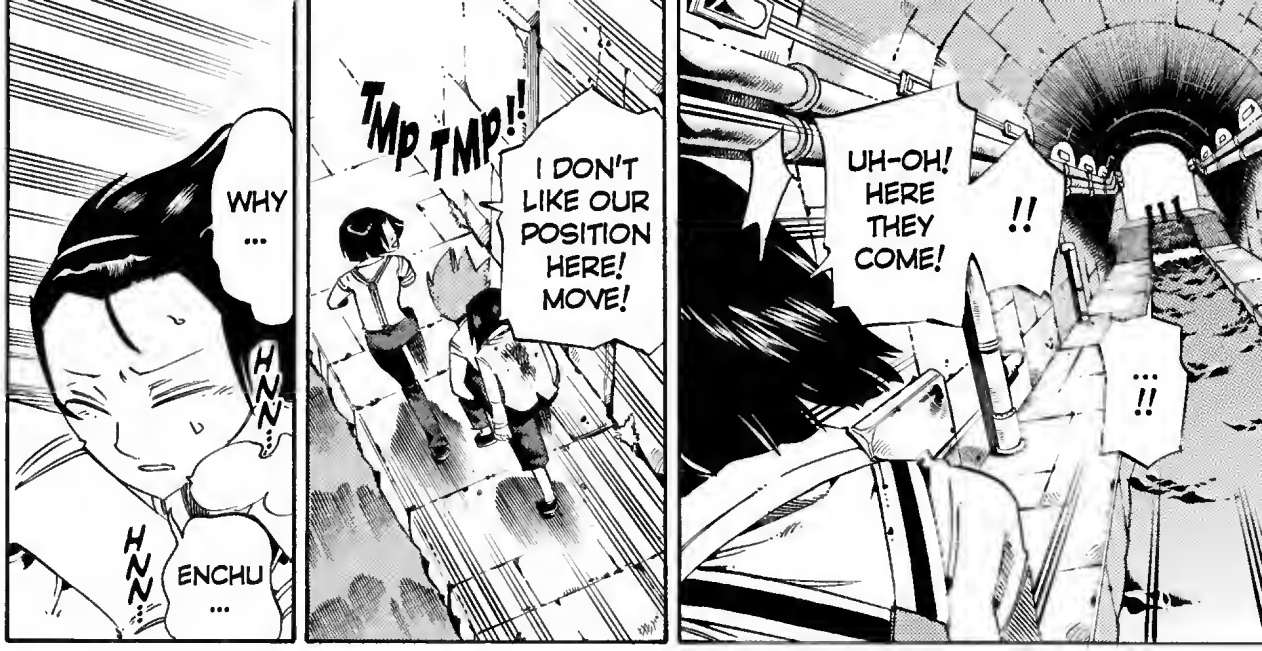

KEEP UP THE PACE. ALMOST THERE.
WO
O
O
O


HUH? NANA?
IT'S IN THE M.L.S., SO IT SHOULD BE!


NANA...
ERM, SCUZE ME, LASSIE.
WHAT'LL I DO IF KIRIKO'S DEAD?!
HOW COULD I...?
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!


OUT WITH IT, MUTT.
WHAT?!
THING IS, I 'APPEN TO KNOW WHERE YER WEE FRIEND'S AT.


ZUD-UD-UD!!
!!
EW
HRAAH!
AP!


UH-OH! HERE THEY COME!
!!
...!!
TMP TMP!!
I DON'T LIKE OUR POSITION HERE! MOVE!
WHY ...
HNN...
HNN...
ENCHU ...


WOOOSH
HOW COULD YOU HAVE TURNED TO FORBIDDEN MAGIC LAW?
THERE'S NO WAY!
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

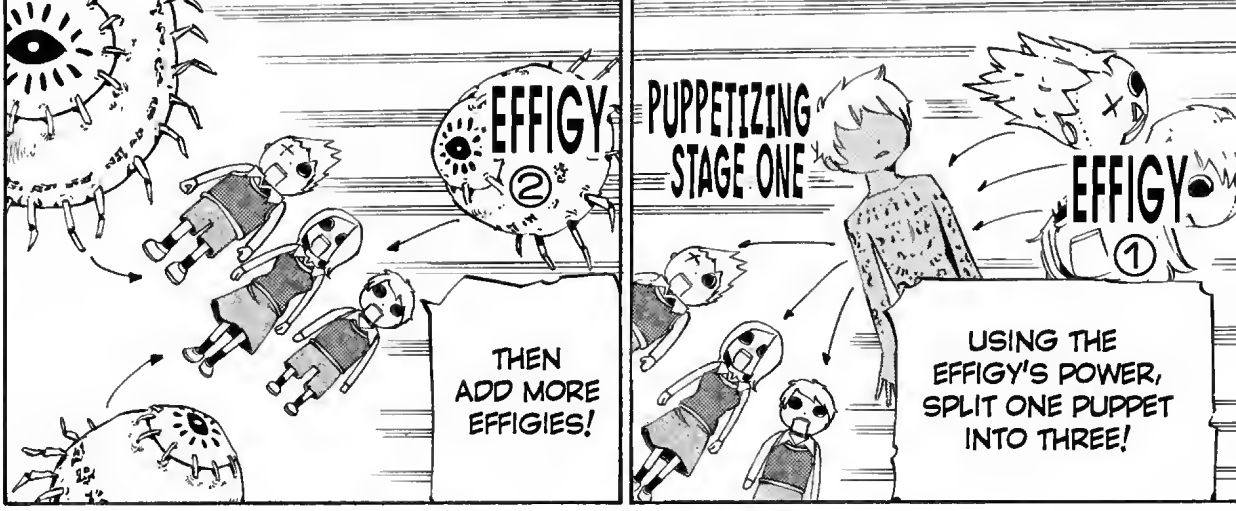

UGGUH!
AAGH!
KRIK KRIK KRIK
ZIK ZZIK
NGAK!
ZIK
ZIK
ZIK
HRRRR NNNPH !!!


...AND YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD TO BE AN EXECUTOR TO DO THAT?!
NO, EN-CHU!
YOU JUST WANTED TO SAVE YOUR MOTHER...


SAY IT ISN'T TRUE!!!
WHY COULDN'T YOU DO IT AS A JUDGE?!
NO...
ZIK...


KRAAK
WAN..
NHUP...


WOO HOO HOO HEE! SUCCESS !!!
KRAAK
POKK


EFFIGY ②
THEN ADD MORE EFFIGIES!
PUPPETIZING STAGE ONE
EFFIGY ①
USING THE EFFIGY'S POWER, SPLIT ONE PUPPET INTO THREE!

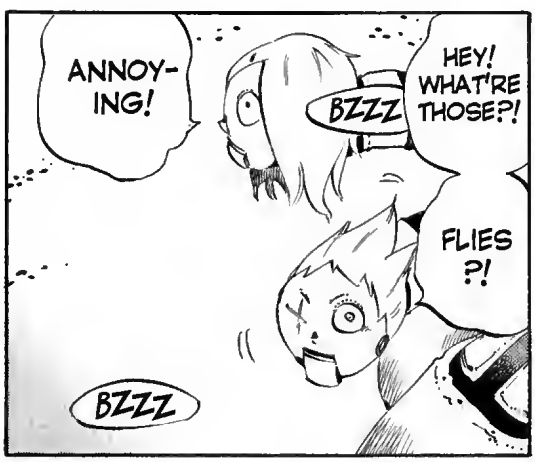

!!
THE ULTIMATE FEAT OF PUPPETEERING! MULTILAYER PUPPETIZATION!!
KRIK KRIK
KRIK KRIK
KRIK KRIK

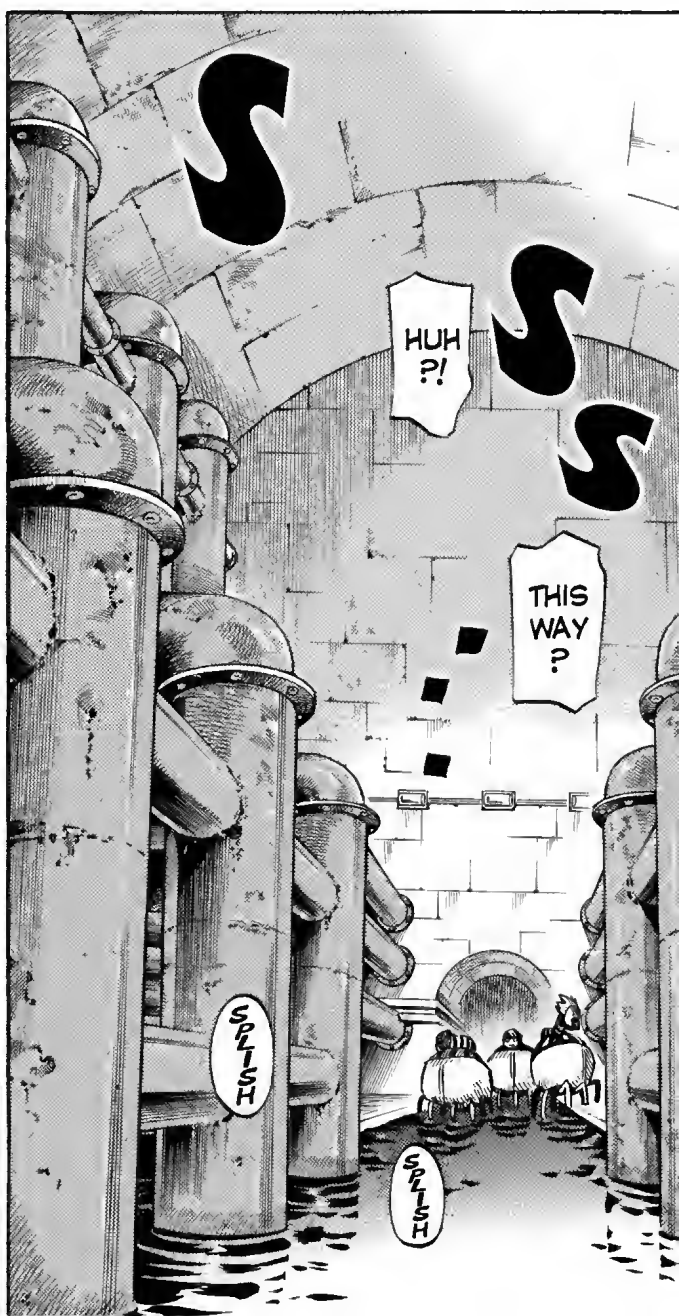

WHA—
WHAT'RE THOSE?!
POK
POK
POK
VWOOON
VWOOON
SHWOOOK
ZAK
OOM!!
!!!


VWOO
NOW IT'S BECOMING DIFFERENT PUPPETS?!
GWORK!
THIS IS CRAZY!
FIRST THE PUPPET SPLIT INTO THREE—
THAT'S...!
GIVE CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE, MICK!
HWA HA HA HA!!! AWESOME!!
HEE!
THANK ME LATER. FIRST, CLEAN UP THE TRASH.
OUR MASTER GAVE US LIFE!
KRRIK
WE'RE ONLY HERE THANKS TO OUR MASTER!
NO. S-SOME-THING'S WRONG.
KRIK...
HYOOO!
...


YOU'RE DIFFERENT...
IVY...
HUFF...
THIS WAY...!
PANT
PANT
PANT
I THINK I FIGURED IT OUT.
PANT
I THINK I KNOW WHAT YOICHI WAS GOING ON ABOUT!
YEAH, ME TOO...
IT WAS YOU WHO SHOWED ME WHAT WE COULD DO!
TOGETHER... AS JUDGES!
ENEMY


KRIK
KRIK
KLAT
KLAT
YOU AIN'T GETTIN' AWAAA-AAAY !!
THERE THEY GO!!

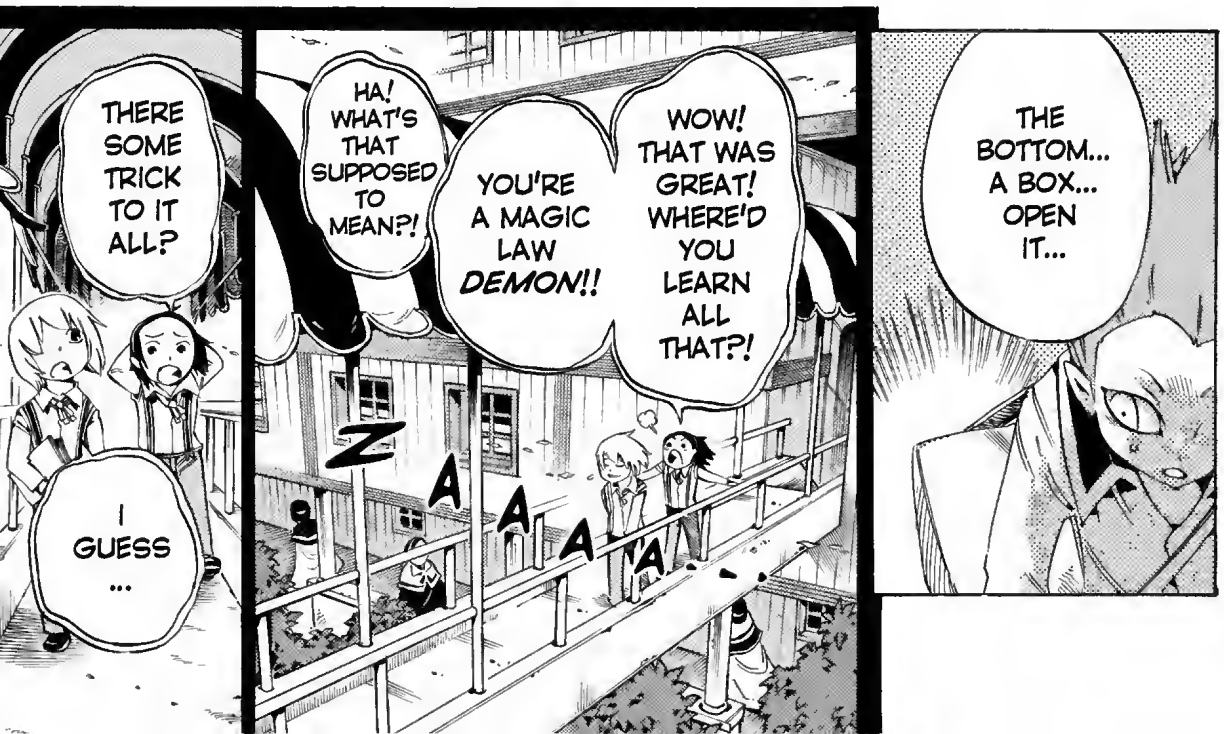

ANNOY-ING!
BZZZ
HEY! WHAT'RE THOSE?!
FLIES ?!
BZZZ


S
S
S
HUH ?!
THIS WAY ?
SPLISH
SPLISH


ENOUGH! WE'RE COMING FOR YA!!!
SPOK !!


PANT
GASP
HUFF...


W E O O ...!!
UNGH ...!
GINJI...
?!
HUH?
MY... BAG...
ZA KOOM
FOP FOP FOP !!


THE BOTTOM... A BOX... OPEN IT...
WOW! THAT WAS GREAT! WHERE'D YOU LEARN ALL THAT?!
YOU'RE A MAGIC LAW DEMON!!
HA! WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!
THERE SOME TRICK TO IT ALL?
I GUESS ...
ZAAAAA

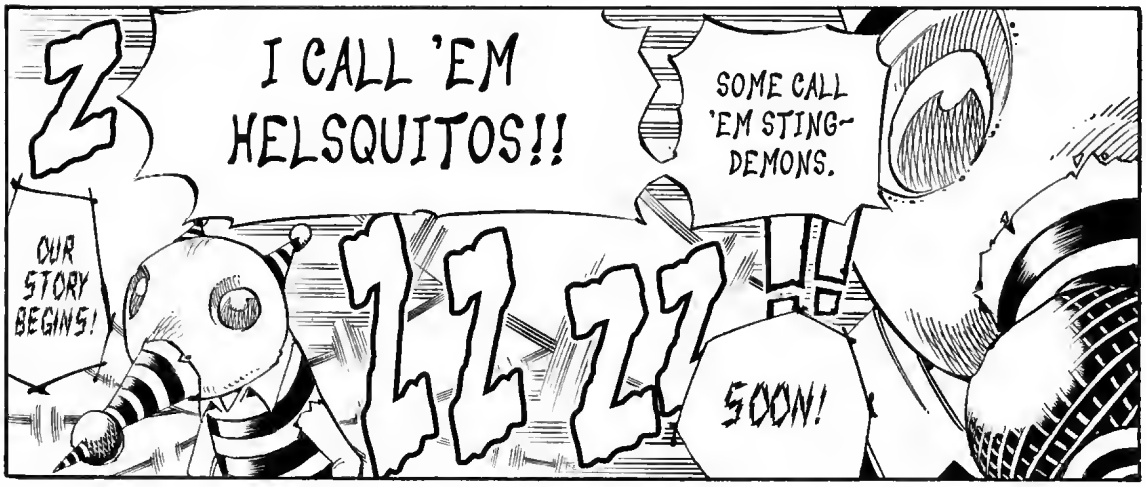

I READ SOMETHING IN A BOOK ONCE.
"IN BATTLE, ALL THINGS HAVE THEIR USE."
POK...
...HUH?
IT MADE A KIND OF SENSE.
KI...
...!!
KIRIKO ?!

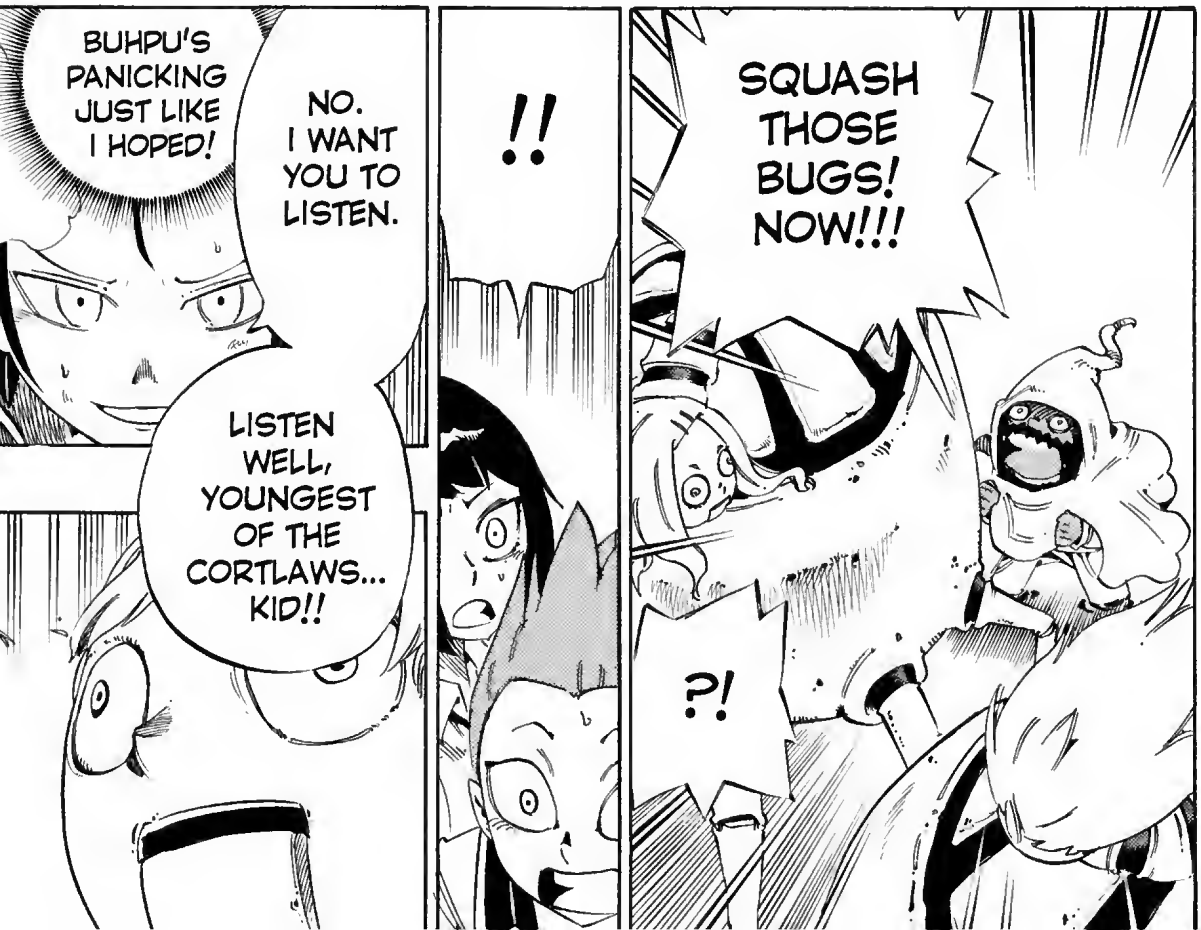

"TO FOOL YOUR ENEMY, BEGIN WITH YOUR ALLIES."
ONE OTHER THING—
THIS IS MY BACKUP PLAN.
IT'S ALL OR NOTHING, GUYS.
YOICHI... ARE YOU SURE?!
YOU READY?
KIRIKO?
WAAAAH. I'M POOPED!
DONK
I CAN'T C-CALL ANY MORE—
PANT...
PANT...


LISTEN!
ZZZZZZ
LISTEN TO USZZZ!!
US...
...EN!
VZ
Z
U
U
N
LISSSSEN!
PLEASE!
VZZZZZZ
?!
ZZZZZZZ
VZZZZZZ
?!
WHAT ...
!!
!!
!!
IT STUNG ME?!
VWEEN
!!
EH?!
ZAT


ZZZ
ZZZ
Z
Z
THE TALE OF THE CURSED CORTLAW FAMILY...
HEAR THE CURSED TALE...
NOD
WHAT...?!
...!!
THE DEMONS I CALL ARE PRETTY MUCH THE LOWEST OF THE LOW DOWN BELOW.
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT ALL THIS?!
WAIT A SECOND, MISTER.
SO KIRIKO'S—
WITH YOICHI?!


THIS... COULD BE BAD.
AND THEN ANNOY YOU BY SPITTING THEM BACK OUT AT YOU!
WELL NOW ...
...IS SUCK OUT YOUR MEMORIES.
'BOUT THE ONLY THING THEY CAN DO...


I CALL 'EM HELSQUITOS!!
SOME CALL 'EM STING-DEMONS.
OUR STORY BEGINS!
ZZ ZZ
SOON!


BUHPU'S PANICKING JUST LIKE I HOPED!
NO. I WANT YOU TO LISTEN.
LISTEN WELL, YOUNGEST OF THE CORTLAWS... KID!!
!!
SQUASH THOSE BUGS! NOW!!!
?!


WHAT, FOOL YOUR FRIENDS? YOU MEAN YOU'D FOOL ME?!
NO, DON'T TAKE IT SO LITERALLY! I JUST READ IT IN A BOOK!



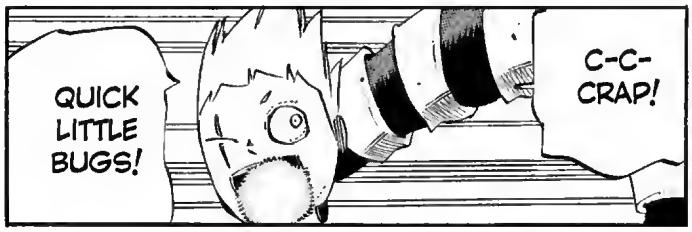


ARTICLE 119
NEGOTIATION



ARTICLE 119
NEGOTIATION



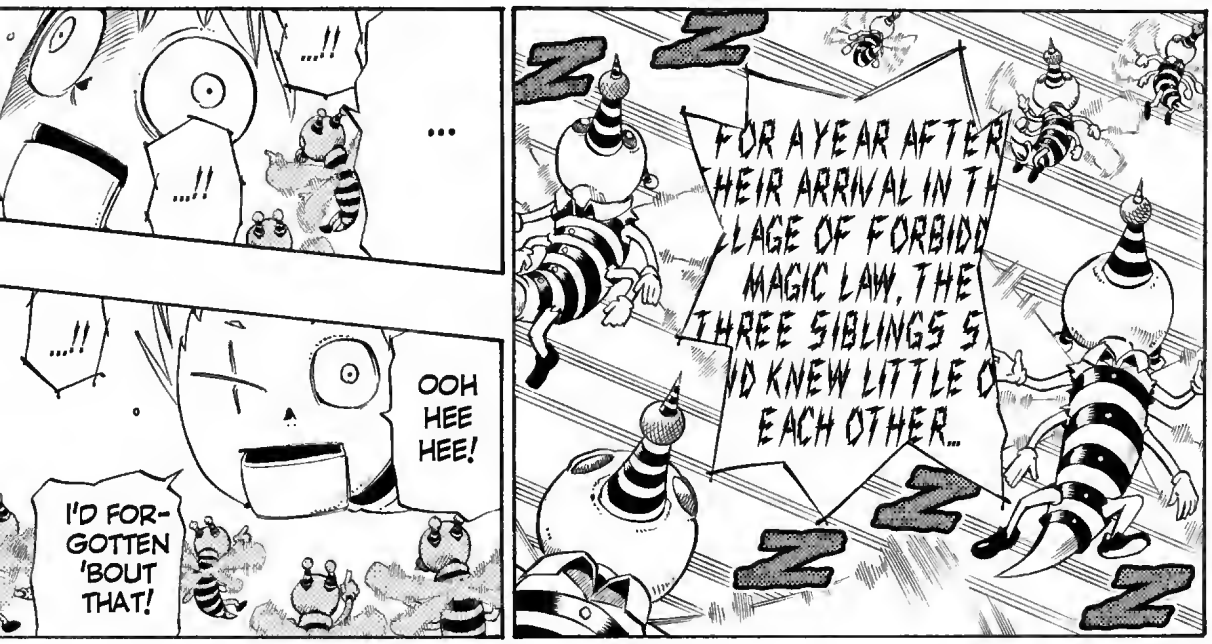


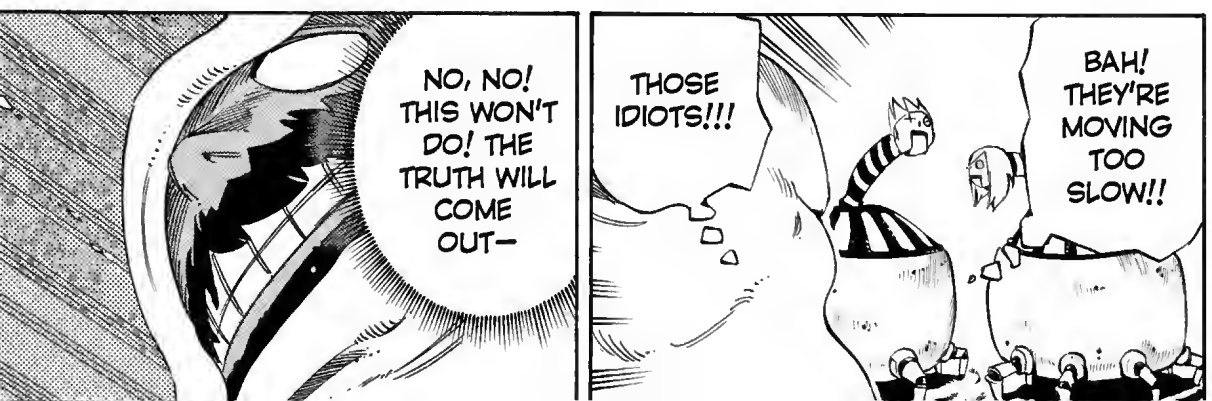


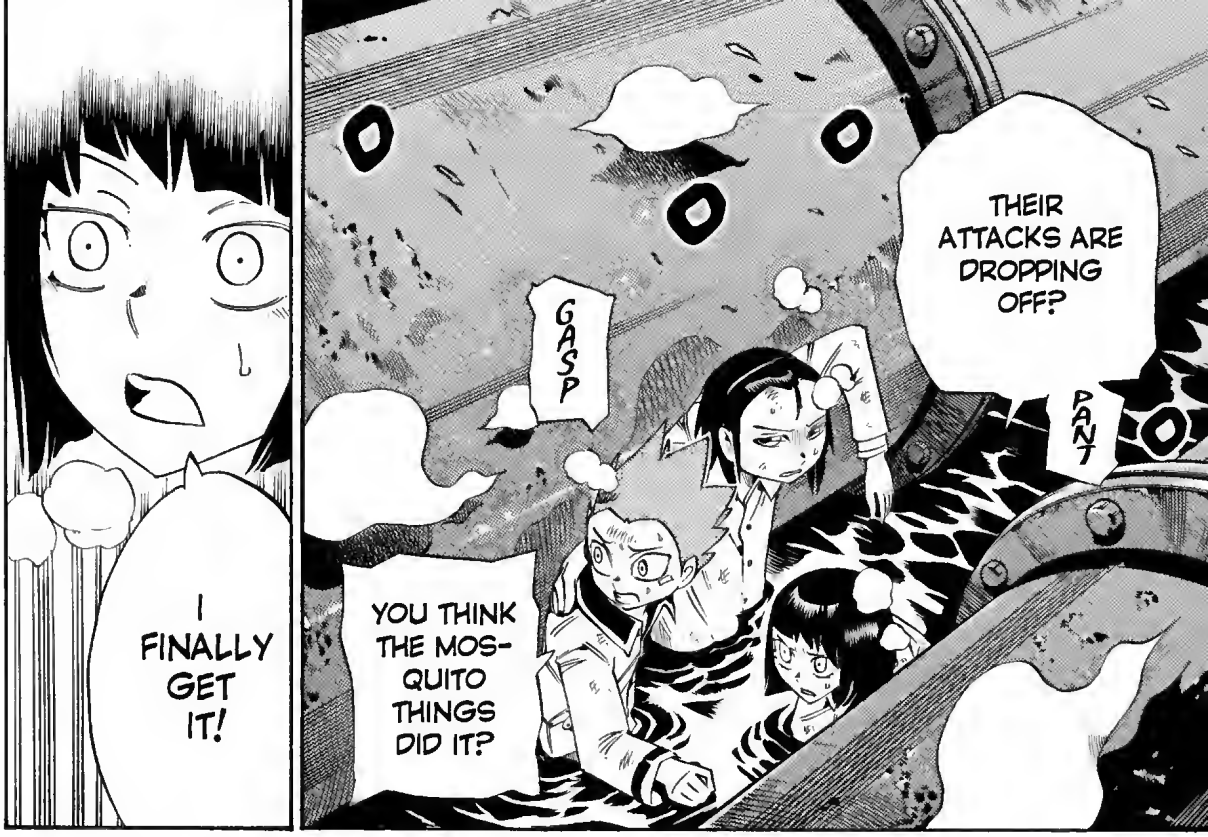


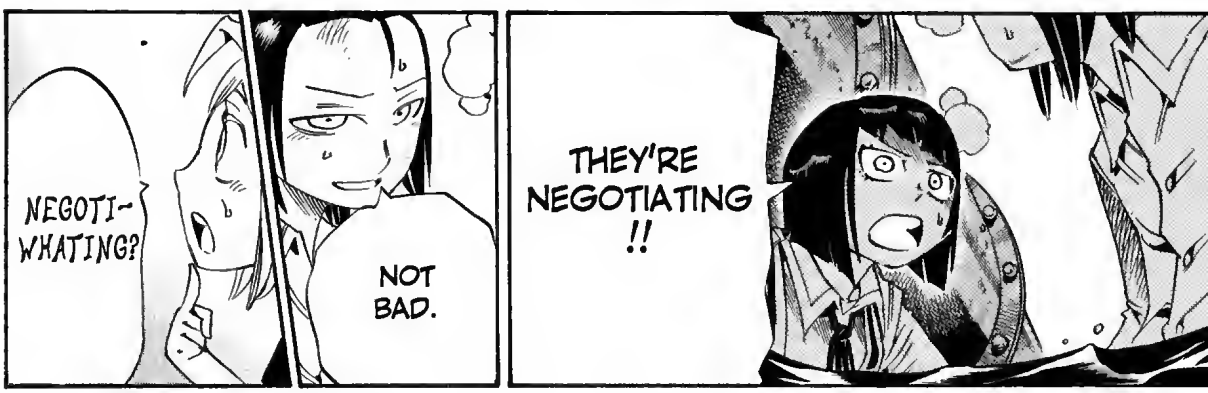

GASP
SO WHY'D YOU WANNA USE HELSQUITOS ON THE CORT-WHATEVERS?
PANT
ZUDDOOM
PANT
PANT
SPLASH
SPLASH
I'LL KILL THEM!!!
KRRRRK

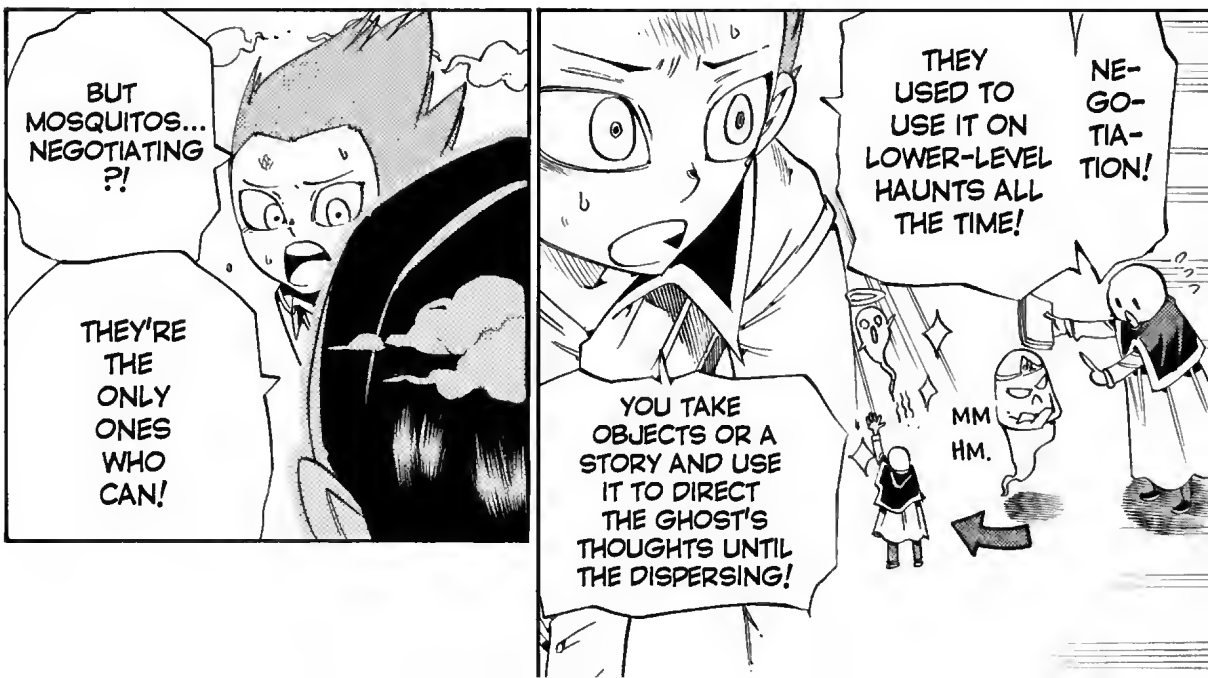

WATCH 'N' SEE!


...!!
...!!
...
...!!
OOH HEE HEE!
I'D FORGOTTEN 'BOUT THAT!
FOR A YEAR AFTER
HEIR ARRIVAL IN TH
LAGE OF FORBID
MAGIC LAW, THE
THREE SIBLINGS S
D KNEW LITTLE O
EACH OTHER...

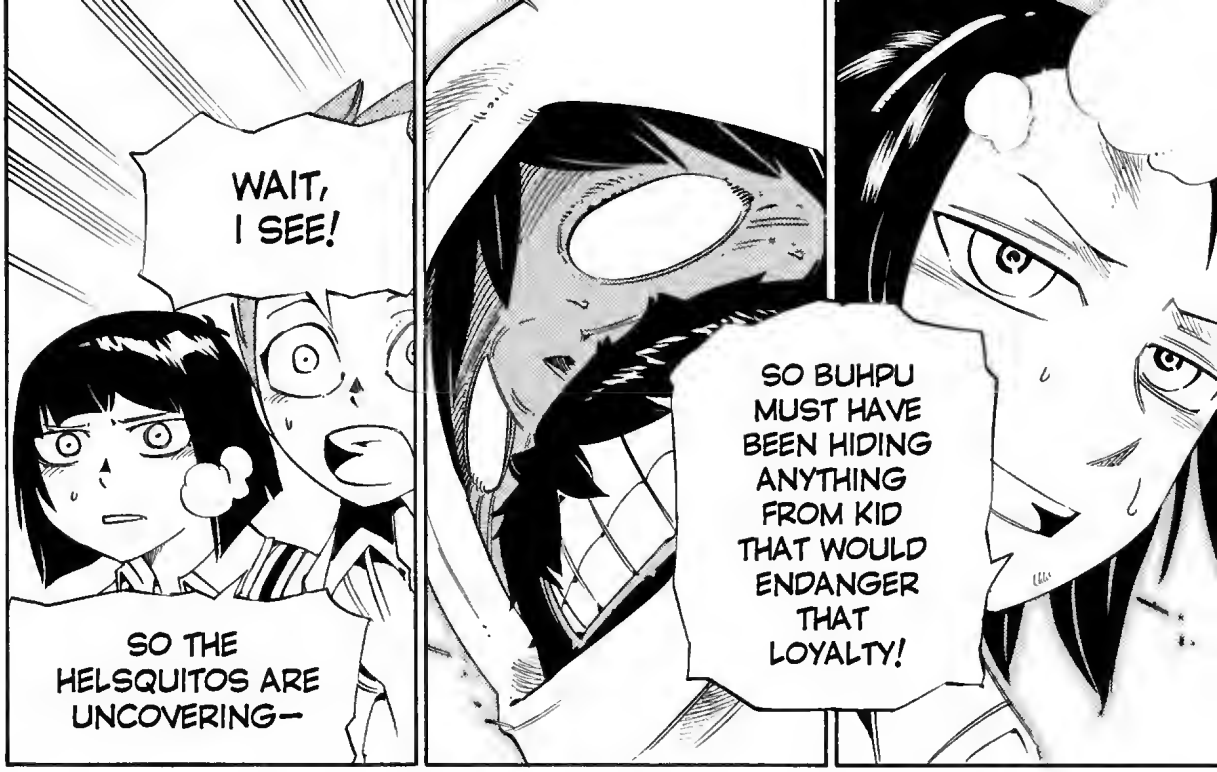

NO, NO! THIS WON'T DO! THE TRUTH WILL COME OUT—
THOSE IDIOTS!!!
BAH! THEY'RE MOVING TOO SLOW!!

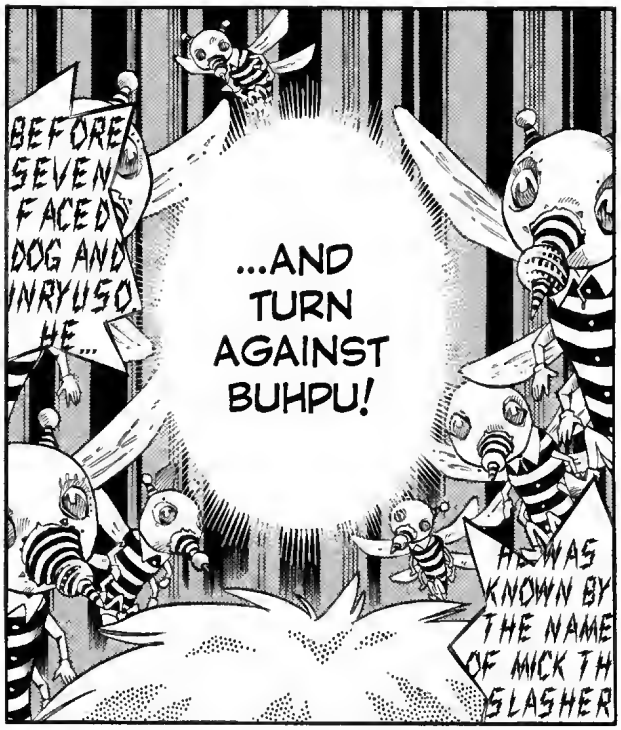

I FINALLY GET IT!
YOU THINK THE MOS-QUITO THINGS DID IT?
GASP
THEIR ATTACKS ARE DROPPING OFF?
PANT


NEGOTI-WHATING?
NOT BAD.
THEY'RE NEGOTIATING !!


BUT MOSQUITOS... NEGOTIATING ?!
THEY'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN!
YOU TAKE OBJECTS OR A STORY AND USE IT TO DIRECT THE GHOST'S THOUGHTS UNTIL THE DISPERSING!
THEY USED TO USE IT ON LOWER-LEVEL HAUNTS ALL THE TIME!
NE-GO-TIA-TION!
MM HM.


OUR ENEMIES, I SAID!
KILL THEM !!
DON'T HESI-TATE!
THEY'RE OUR ENEMIES, KID!
PANT
GASP
I KNEW FROM MY RE-SEARCH ...
THAT KID AND BUHPU HAD A CONNEC-TION!
PANT
PANT
LOST IN THE DARKNESS OF ARK!
!!
SOON, THE CHILDREN FADED...
KID WAS COMPLETELY THE THRALL OF BUHPU.
K-I-I-D!!
AND SOMETHING WAS FISHY ABOUT THE MICK AND IVY PUPPETS!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ALL THAT I'VE DONE FOR YOU?!


WAIT, I SEE!
SO THE HELSQUITOS ARE UNCOVERING—
SO BUHPU MUST HAVE BEEN HIDING ANYTHING FROM KID THAT WOULD ENDANGER THAT LOYALTY!

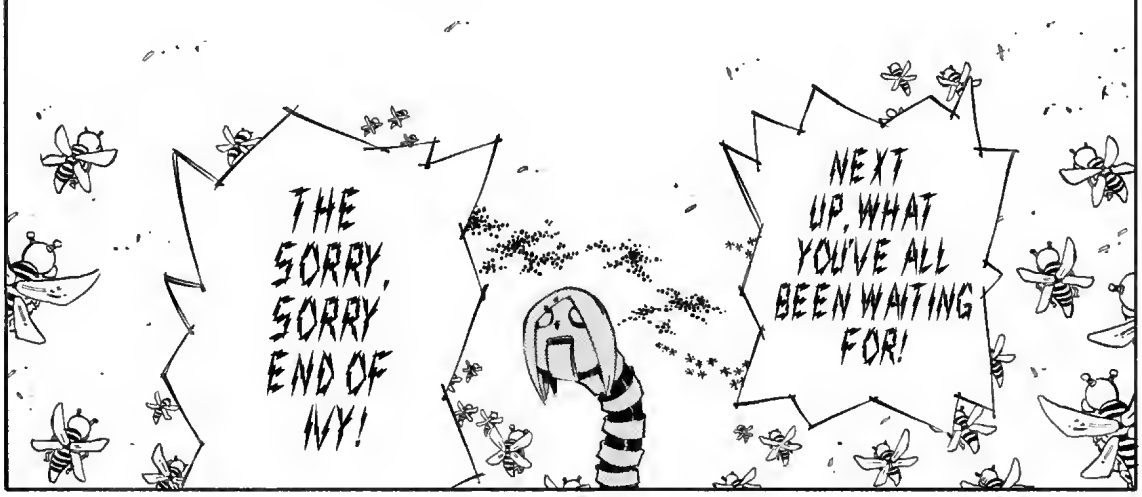

BEFORE SEVEN FACED DOG AND INRYUSO HE...
...AND TURN AGAINST BUHPU!
HE WAS KNOWN BY THE NAME OF MICK TH SLASHER

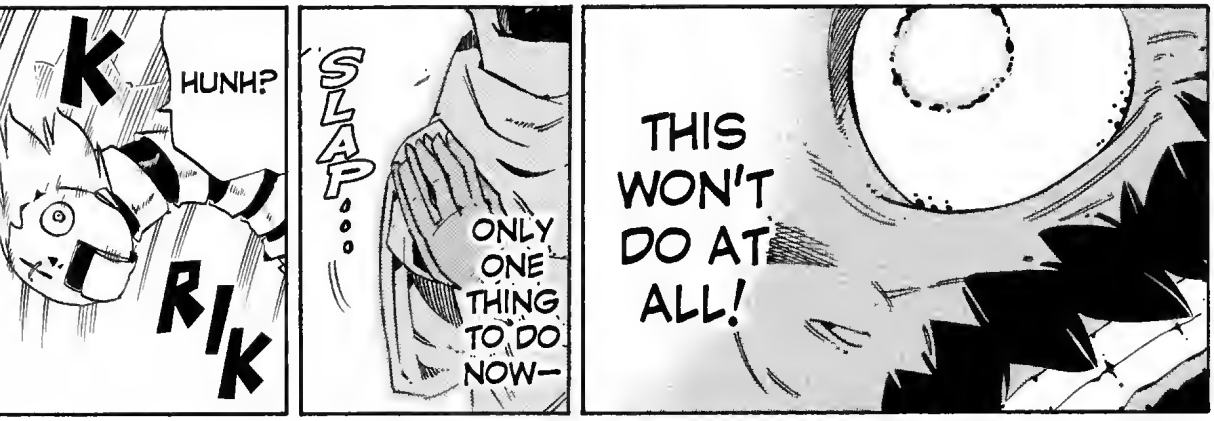

—THE TRUTH.
AND ONCE KID HEARS THE TRUTH, HE'LL WEAKEN...


IF THERE'S A CHINK IN BUHPU'S ARMOR, THEY'LL FIND IT!


IT WAS A BACKUP PLAN, BUT TRUST ME...
GASP


IF EVERYTHING GOES THAT WELL!
PANT
PANT


THE SORRY, SORRY END OF IVY!
NEXT UP, WHAT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!


HUNH?
KRIK
SLAP...
ONLY ONE THING TO DO NOW—
THIS WON'T DO AT ALL!


PUPPETS, I RELEASE YOU!!!
WHOOSH
!!
POK POK POK !!


?!
HE'S RE-LEAS-ING THEM ?!
STAGGER
SHW OOO
KRAK!!
PLIT
PLIT
PLIT!!
WOBBLE
VWEO


SPLASH!!
BUHPU COL-LAPSED !!
AND KID'S BACK TO NORMAL!
SPLISH
SPLISH


POK
FSHHH
POK
POK
...
POK
POK
WAIT! DID WE JUST ...
... WIN?
NICE!!
HEE HOO HOO!
NYURK
POK
POK
WH...
AAH!
GLAD I TESTED IT ON THEM FIRST!
ZZZZ
OK
THANKS, IVY AND MICK!
SUCCESS! AH, THE POWER!!


KID...
...IS BUHPU ?!!
HEE HEE! YOUNG AGAIN!
SH!!
VWEE
ZUB ZUB ZUB
LOOK OUT!
SP
LASH
VWAP
!!
UNGH!
ZUK
ZUK
ZUK!!
AGH!
KRIK
KRIK
KRIK
AAAAUGH!!
GUYS?! WHAT'S GOING ON?!


FOOOM...!
VAM!!
SPL
AAK!!
AAAUU!
OOOOO!
NYEE HEE HAA! MARVELOUS!
I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO USE PUPPET TATTOOS TO GET THEM!


GIN—
GINJI!
ZOOSH!!
CRUMBLE
BUT IT'S ALL FOR NAUGHT !!
NICE TRY. VERY NICE!
ZAK
ZAK
ZAK
UNH ...
GAH!


GINJI ...!!!
ZOKKUN
GWEEGH!
GEEEH!!!
ZOKKUN


ZHUP
AND AS FOR THE REST—
I'LL JUST LEAVE A TOUCH OF MY SOUL BEHIND...
THIS OLD BODY'S BEEN A *HUSK* FOR YEARS.
TH
UMP


I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
I'LL PUT IT IN AN EFFI-GY!
AND KEEP IT INSIDE THIS BODY!!
ZZ
DÜHPÜ ORIGINAL
LOOP
AHA HA HA! ETERNAL LIFE!!
I'LL LIVE LONGER THAN TEEKI!
I'M SUPER-HUMAN!!
NOW I JUST NEED THE FOR-BIDDEN BOOK!
THEN I'LL TURN THEM ALL INTO MY PUPPETS! EVERY-ONE!!!
ALL WILL SERVE ME!
HA HA HA HA
KID...
CAN YOU HEAR ME?


ZIK
ZAK
YOUR SISTER, KID.
BMP...
RAIN... RAIN FALLING ON A MOTIONLESS CORPSE.
THERE'S ...
... STILL ...
ZUNK...
IVY...
BUHPU KILLED IVY!
ONLY A TRACE OF HIM REMAINS!
KID CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING!
KEH KEH!
RAIN FALLING ...
RAIN ON A CORPSE ...


SHW
HE'S BLIND!
FWIP
FWIP
WAIT... THE SECOND ONE *ISN'T* A WARD OF BINDING!
YOU THINK *THAT'S* GOING TO WORK?
PANT
PANT


BUHP
KILLED
IVY.
KID!
PLEASE, OPEN YOUR EYES!
BUHP
KILLED
EH?
...
IVY
!!
HOW COULD YOU...
KRRRK
HOW COULD YOU!
ZIK
KR
IIK
M-MY HAND! I DIDN'T DO THAT ...!


STOOOOOPP!
NOOOOO-!
HOW COULD YOU?!
ZK
ZK
ZK



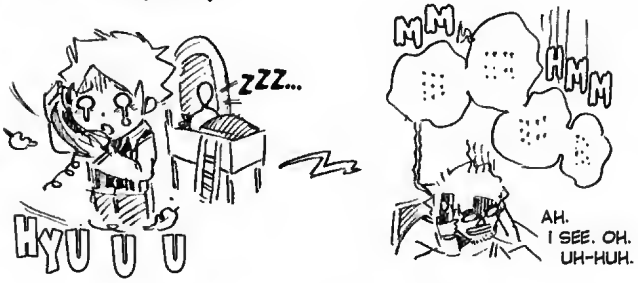


ARTICLE 120
THE SOLUTION

Q: IF MUHYO'S SUCH A GENIUS, WHY IS HE SO POOR? HOW DOES HE GET PAID FOR JOBS? OR DOES HE GET A SALARY? HOW DOES HE GET MONEY FOR LIVING EXPENSES?

-O.Y., NARA PREFECTURE

A: I WONDER!



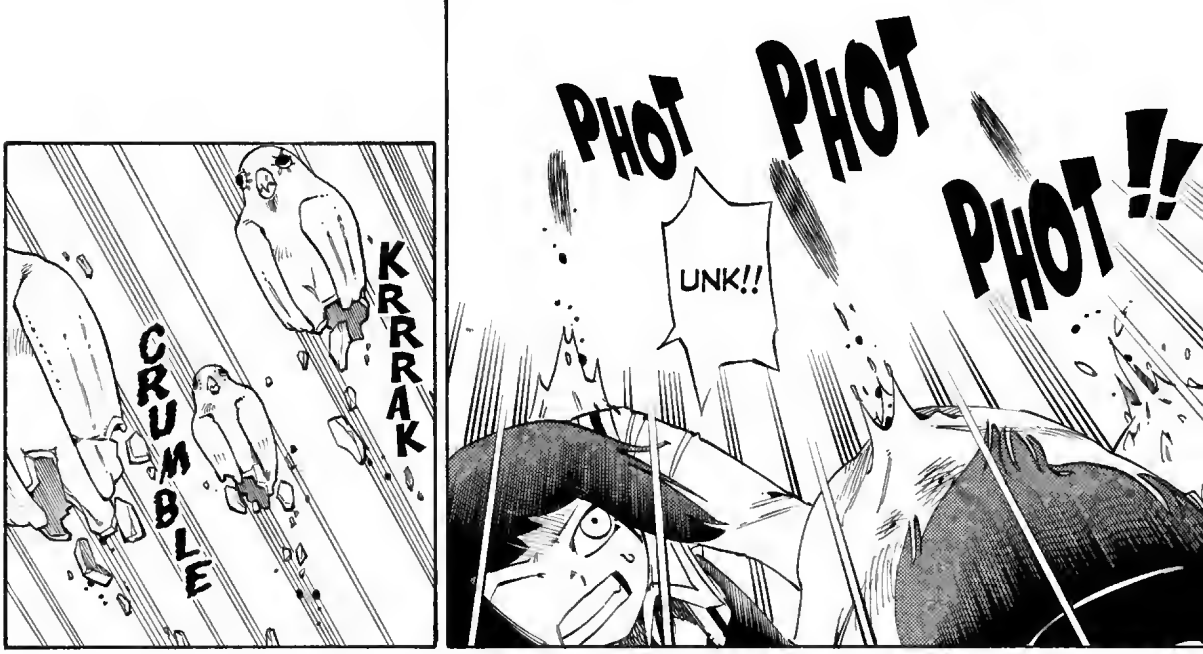
YEEEESH! THAT TOOK FOREVER!!

LOOKS LIKE RUNNING THAT OFFICE ISN'T ALL IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE! NOT ONLY IS THERE A COMPLETE LACK OF STRUCTURE, BUT THERE ARE HARDLY ANY CUSTOMERS. IT'S BECAUSE OF LOCATION PARTLY. THEY'RE IN A BIG CITY, SO A LOT OF THE WORK GETS SCOOPED UP BY THE BIG FIRMS. IT'S NOT JUST THE GORYO GROUP OUT THERE, YOU KNOW.

ALSO, MUHYO'S ONLY REALLY FAMOUS INSIDE THE ASSOCIATION. HIS NAME DOESN'T CARRY MUCH WEIGHT ON THE OPEN MARKET. ONE GOOD THING THOUGH—THEIR LANDLORD IS CUTTING THEM A DEAL ON RENT, SO THEY DON'T PAY MUCH FOR THEIR OFFICE SPACE AT LEAST. AS FOR FOOD MONEY, THEY HAVE ABOUT $3 ON A GOOD DAY AND $0.50 ON A BAD ONE...

WHICH MEANS FOR ONE MEAL, THAT'S... ON SECOND THOUGHT, LET'S NOT GO THERE. MUHYO MAY BE THE FAMOUS ONE, BUT ROJI IS A GENIUS WHEN IT COMES TO KEEPING THEM ALIVE!


ZA
K
K
I WANT HISSS BODY-YYY!
KER-PLOP!
SPLISH
POK
ARRRGH! NEED A STRON-GER BOD-
-EEE!
SORA-TSUGU MADOKA'S BODYYY!
ZA
K
OOM
!!
WHAT'S HAPPENED-


KRRRAK
CRUMBLE
PHOT
PHOT
PHOT!!
UNK!!

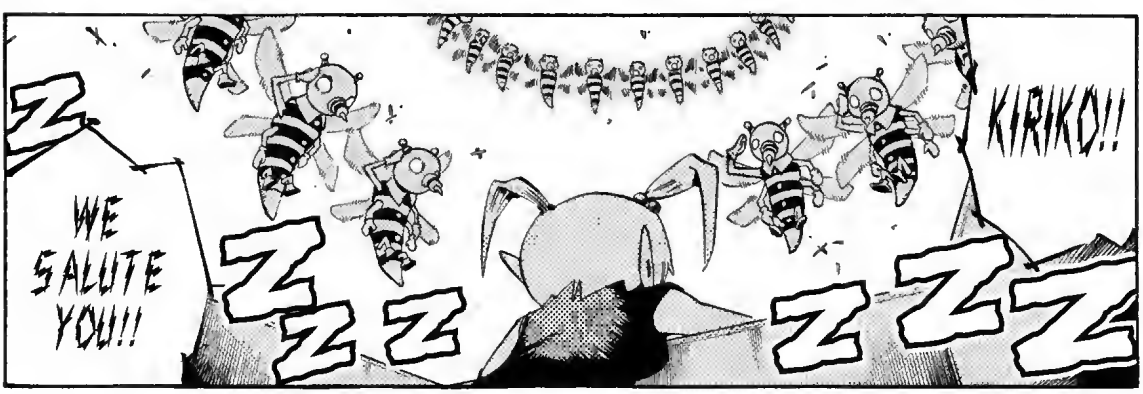

YOU'RE BACK ...!!
THE FEATHERS ARE FALLING!
!!
FOO SH

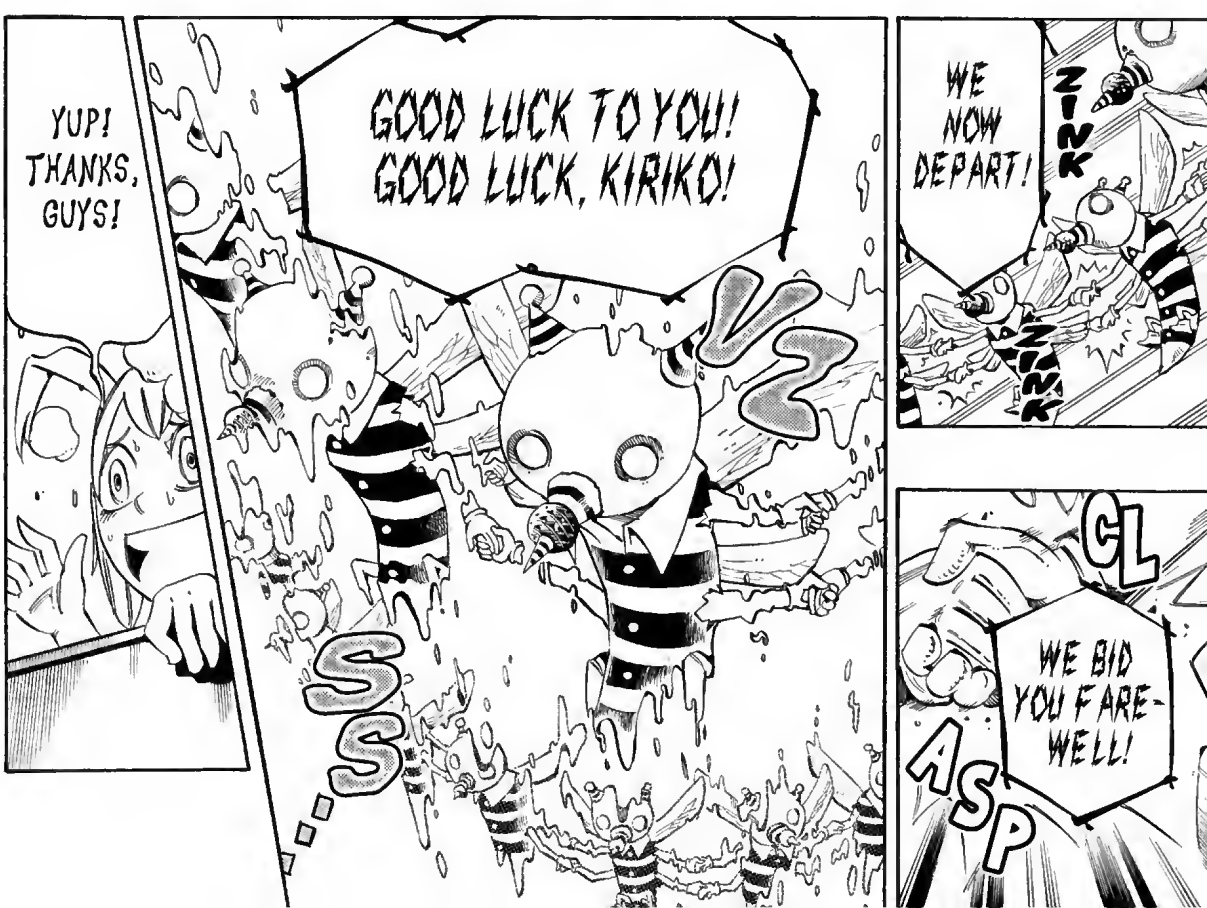

WWO N
IVY...
SZZ
OSH
ZIK

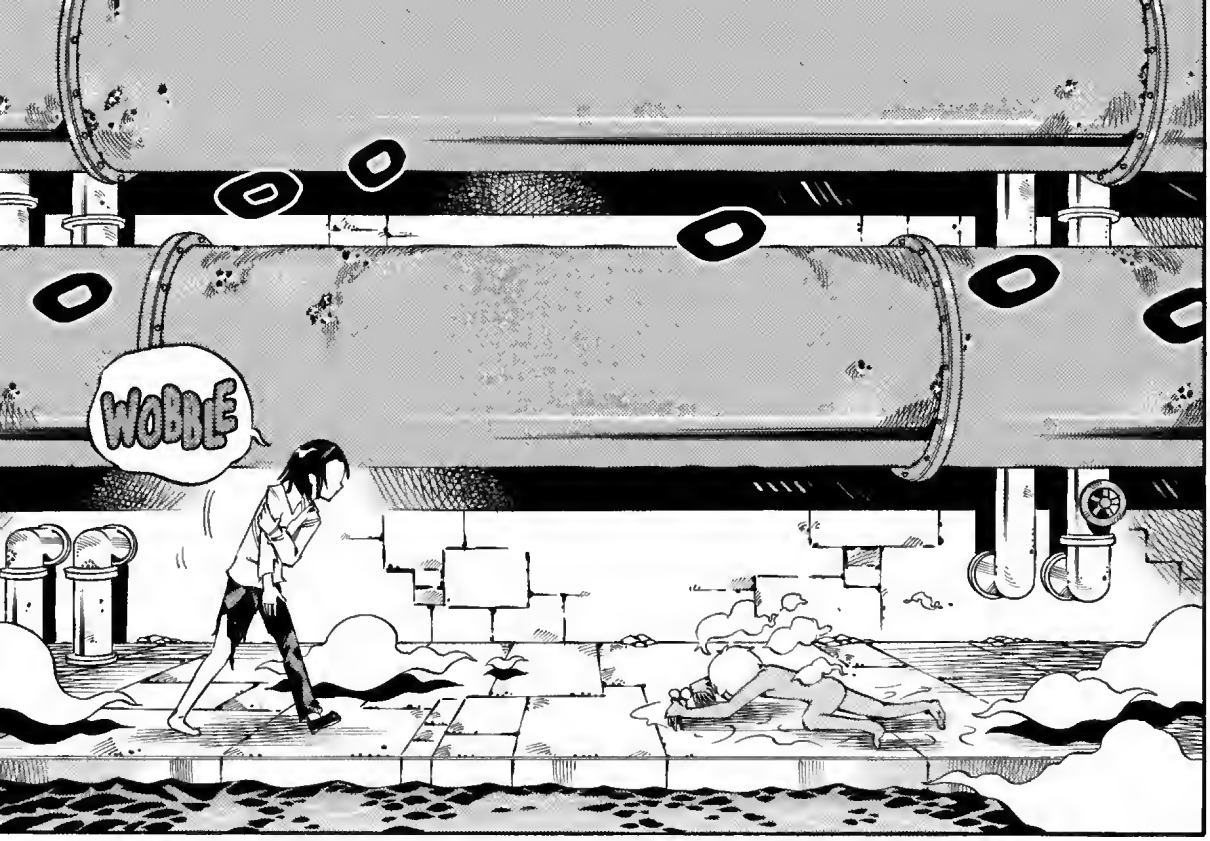

POK
K
K
MY SISTER ...


10
NGAAH!!


PLIT PLIT
THE EFFIGIES ARE CRACKING!
BONK
BLING
DONG!!
KRAK
ZAK
ZOK


WE SALUTE YOU!!
KIRIKO!!


YUP! THANKS, GUYS!
GOOD LUCK TO YOU! GOOD LUCK, KIRIKO!
WE NOW DEPART!
ZINK
CL
WE BID YOU FARE-WELL!
ASP

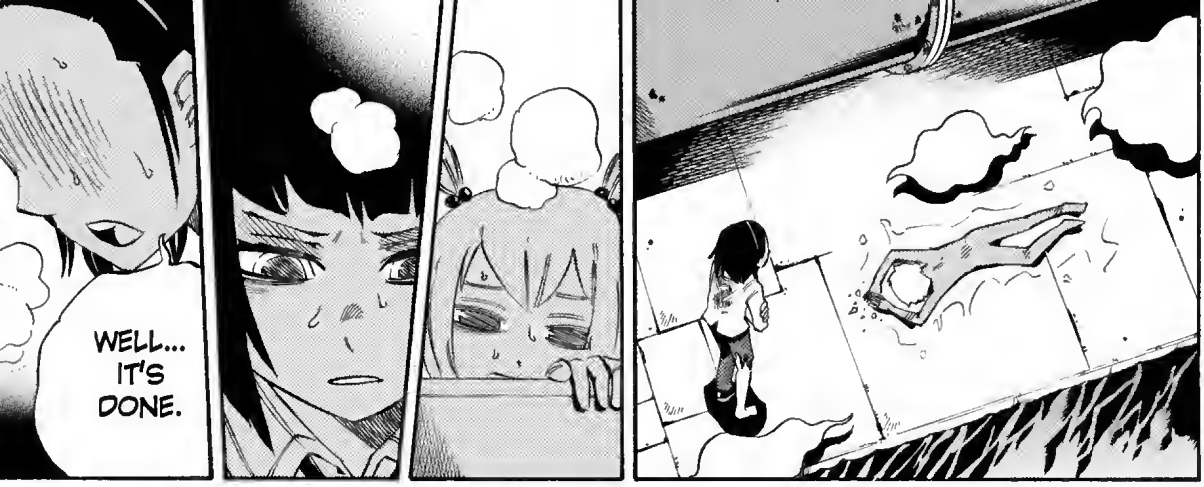

WOBBLE


THANK YOU...
I JUST...
IVY...IS AVENGED.
I JUST WANT-ED ...
...MY FAMILY BACK.

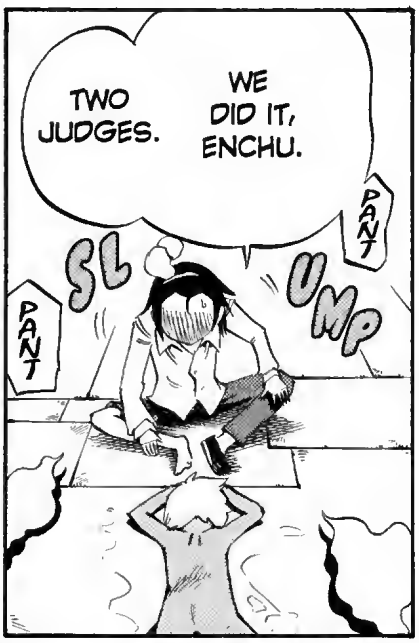

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY WE HAD.
WE HAD TO USE FORBIDDEN MAGIC LAW.
HERE?
THIS IS THE PLACE.
HO HO... CORTLAW, YOU SAY?
WHY HAVE YOU COME?
IT WAS ALL WE HAD!
THE FORBIDDEN MAGIC LAW PRACTITION-ERS LIVE HERE!
WHOA!
COOL!
WHERE WE GROW STRONG ENOUGH TO BE ARK.
I'M S-SCARED ...
DON'T BE. THIS IS WHERE WE LEARN.

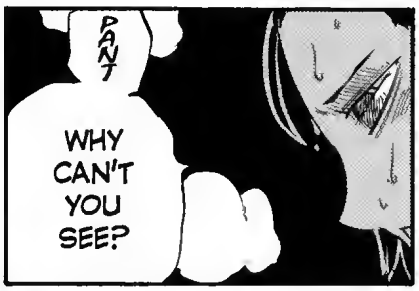

HOO HEE HEE.
BUHPU HAD HIS EYE ON US FROM THE VERY START.
COME TO ME, KID...
NO WAY, CREEPY OLD DUDE!
WHAM!!
YOU MUST GIVE KID TO ME!
YOU'LL BE IN ARK IN NO TIME WITH ME!
WITH ONE CONDI-TION ...
THEN ASK SOMEONE ELSE FOR HELP.
WE HAVE TO GET MOM AND DAD BACK.
NO. I'LL GO.
YOU STINK, OLD MAN.
YOU THINK ANYONE EVEN CARES ABOUT YOU? ANYONE BUT ME?!


KID...
RIGHT?
KRRAK
SOON WE'LL BE TOGETH-ER.
SPLUK
BUT... SOON...
I WAS WRONG ...
BUT...
PANT
PANT
IVY...
MICK...
SHH
TO-GETH ...
PANT...
GASP...
MOM...
DAD...


WELL... IT'S DONE.

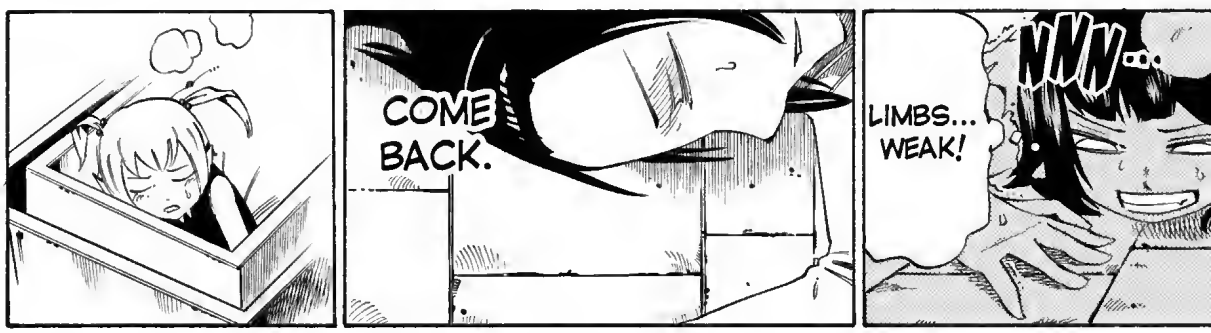

FS
H
SUCH SADNESS ...
WHY?


TWO JUDGES.
WE DID IT, ENCHU.
PANT
SL
UMP
PANT


PANT
WHY CAN'T YOU SEE?


FORBIDDEN MAGIC LAW IS... SADNESS.


FWUMP
?!
YOICHI!
HUFF
TH
UD!!

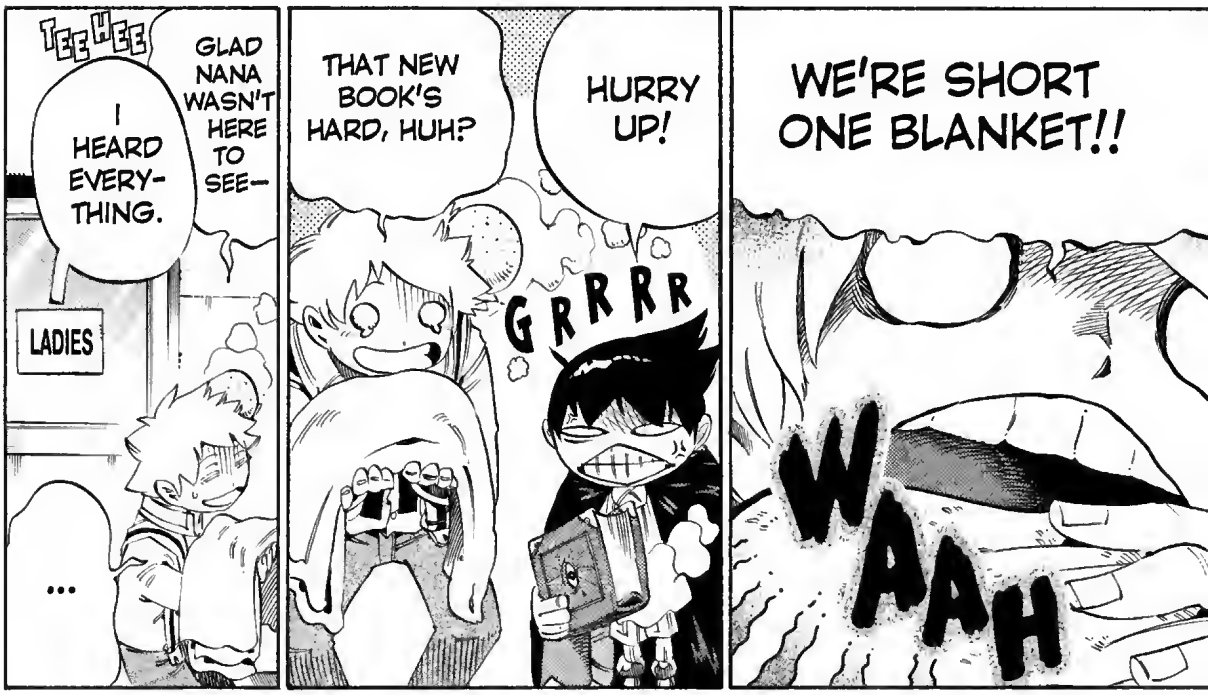

COME BACK.
LIMBS... WEAK!
NNN...


HELLO?
COME BACK, ENCHU!
CAN YOU HEAR ME? HELLO?
DRIP
HELLO?
IMAI?!
IS THIS AN AFTER-EFFECT OF THE PUPPE-TIZATION?
BLOOP!
MUST CALL FOR HELP! PAGE—


ENCHU...
SAY SOME-THING!
ANYONE THERE?
SHOULD ANY-THING HAPPEN...
...THEY'RE IN YOUR HANDS, BUSUJIMA.
M.L.S. GARDENING SHED
ZA
A
A
A
A
LOOK, I'M WORRIED.
MAGIC LAW SCHOOL GARDENS
YES. I TOLD THEM TO GET AS FAR AWAY AS POSSIBLE.
DID YOU SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR STUDENTS?
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS I CAN.
HEH. LEAVE IT TO ME.
I'M MUCH BETTER NOW, REALLY.


THE FORBIDDEN FORMULA...
SKRITCH
SO SOON?!
HUH?
WE SOLVED IT!
HE WENT TO THE STORAGE SHED TO GET BLANKETS. IT GETS COLD HERE AT NIGHT.
HEY... WHERE'S MUHYO?
THIS IS THE SOLUTION TO THE SECRET FORMULA!!
ROLL ROLL
HB
THIS SHOWS HOW TO FUSE THE WRIT WITH THE BOOK!!
AMAZ-ING!!
THEY DID IT...
SL
ON IT!!
GET HIM BACK HERE. NOW!!
4M!!
HE WENT T' FETCH BLANKETS FROM NEXT DOOR, LADDY!
WHERE'D HE GO?!
??
W-WHERE'S MUHYO? AND THE BOOK?!


STAGGER
STAGGER
FIVE... SIX...
ZAAA
THREE... FOUR...
STORAGE 棟 SHED


TEE HEE
I HEARD EVERY-THING.
GLAD NANA WASN'T HERE TO SEE—
LADIES
...
THAT NEW BOOK'S HARD, HUH?
HURRY UP!
GRRRR
WE'RE SHORT ONE BLANKET!!
WAAH


WHAT'S WRONG?
JUST ...
NOTH-ING...
?
SIGH...

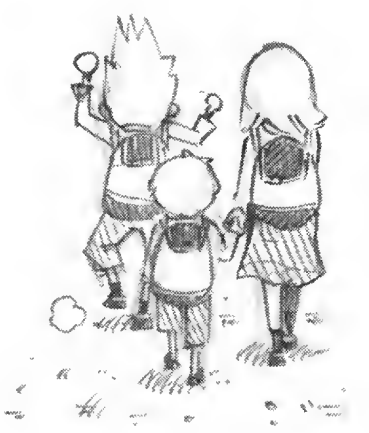

I KINDA MISS OUR OFFICE.
SIGH... WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?
RUB
WE GET TO SIT DOWN AND DRINK TEA WITH EVERYONE.
MUHYO'S GOT HIS WARM BED THERE.
PLIT
JUST A LITTLE MORE THOUGH.
IT'S BEEN A LONG THREE MONTHS.
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL.
S
QUEEK


WE'RE ALMOST—
THAT'S RIGHT.

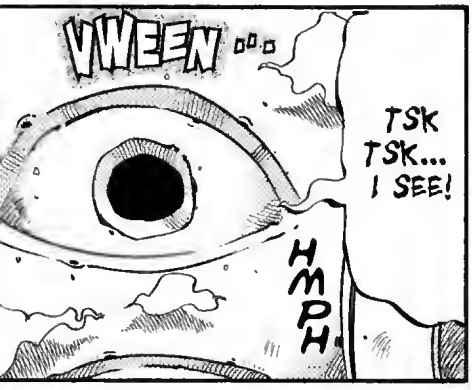

HAN
ZZT
HUH?
JUST A LITTLE LONGER!
EEEEEEK!


YEEEE-
AAAGH!!
POW
AAAAH!!


ZL
UB
SOON IT'LL ALL BE OVER!
HEE HEE.
ONE CAN ONLY HOPE, VERMIN!
IT'S HIM!
TEEKI!!











ARTICLE 121
ENVOY POSSESSION


HE'S...
... GONE ?!
DRIP
!!
THERE!!

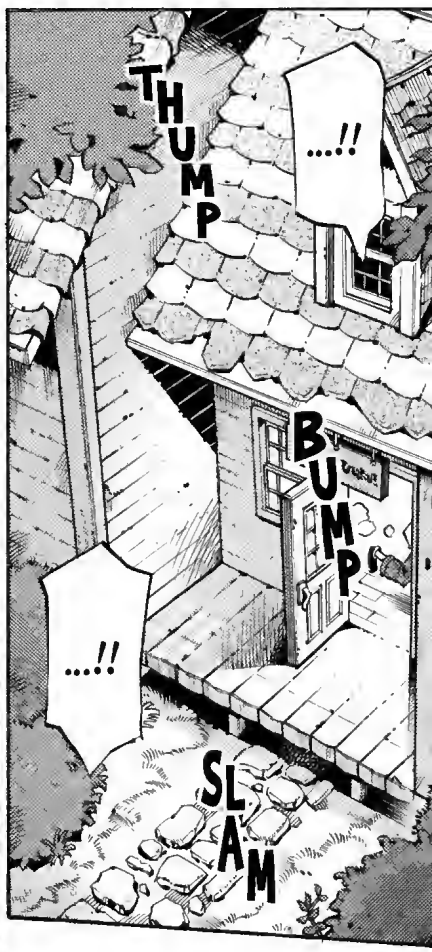

?!
MUHYO?
FAP
!!
IDIOT!


OH NO!
SAW WHAT?
AAAH!
HE SAW IT!!


ARTICLE 121
ENVOY POSSESSION
TEEKI WASN'T AFTER US!
DNK
DNK
DNK
DNK
DNK
DNK
TSK!
HE WASN'T AFTER MUHYO!
TSK TSK.
TSK TSK.
THE OTHERS ...!
HE'S AFTER THE WRIT!!


WE HAVE TO WARN THEM!
THUMP!!


WOOSH!!
WHAT'S TAKING THAT DOG SO LONG?
YES, IF THE BOOK SHOULD CATCH ON FIRE— SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHERE'S MUHYO?!
WATER?!


THUMP
...!!
BUMP
...!!
SLAM


FILL UP THE BASIN WITH WATER!

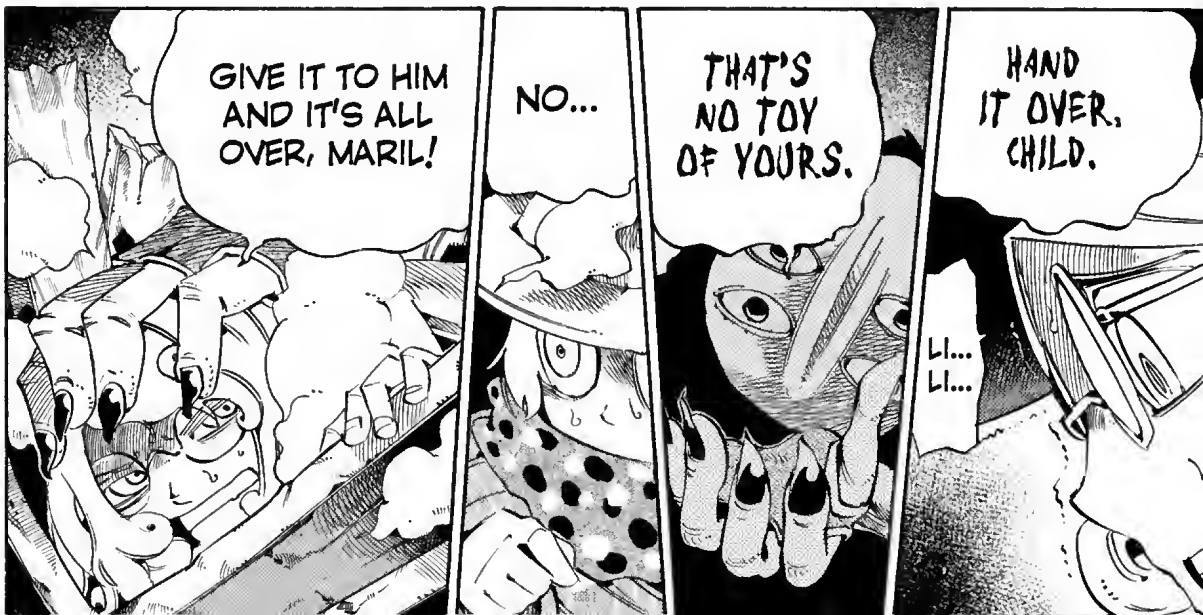

DRIP
SQUEAK
STORAGE
ZUD
ZUD
ZUD
ZUD
ZUD
ZUD
UNK UNK UNK.
SEVEN-FACED DOG?!
PEEL
MMPH!
SQUR
SLAM
SH
HALLOO!


AYE, AYE...
WHAT —?
THEY'VE FIGURED IT OUT!!
GOT GOOD NEWS!
WE KIN PUT THE STONE 'N' THE BOOK TOGETHER!
HEE HEE.
ALREADY?!
GOOD TIMING.
WE WERE DUE FOR SOME GOOD NEWS.
GUYS!!
HERE THEY COME!


HE'S GUNNING FOR YOU GUYS!!
NO, NO...!
HE'S...
HURRY UP!


...FOR YOU!
... GOING ...
TEEKI'S ...


AHH. NICE BARRIER. VERY HARDY.
ALL THE WAY TO THE CEILING! NO WONDER I HAD TROUBLE FINDING IT...
WOOSH!!


GIVE IT TO HIM AND IT'S ALL OVER, MARIL!
NO...
THAT'S NO TOY OF YOURS.
HAND IT OVER, CHILD.
LI... LI...


UMEKICHI!
BOSS!!
NOW!
OVER MY...
... DEAD BODY !!
WORKS FOR ME.
NO!
WE WON'T BE IN TIME!
SSS
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO DIE, TEEKI!
TAH
AAH...!!


DOK
...BUT I'M STILL A FORBIDDEN PRACTITIONER!
YOUR CHARM MAY BE BROKEN...
AND I'M STILL CONTRACTED WITH THE BLACK-FLAME LIZARDS!
VUUN
VO
BLOW, BREATH OF THE BLACK-FLAME LIZARDS!
M!!
BLOW!
HEY!
THAT'S JUST LIKE IN THE ARCANUM—
AKOOOM!!


RIO!!
BUT...I THOUGHT YOUR WAND WAS BROKEN!
IT WAS... WHICH IS WHY I KEEP A SPARE.


SHE'S JUST UN-CONSCIOUS! WHERE'S MUHYO—?
LIL!!


PLACE THE STONE ON THE CONTRACT PAGE IN THE BOOK.
THE PROCESS IS SIMPLE!
SWO
OSH
TELL ME WHAT I NEED TO KNOW.

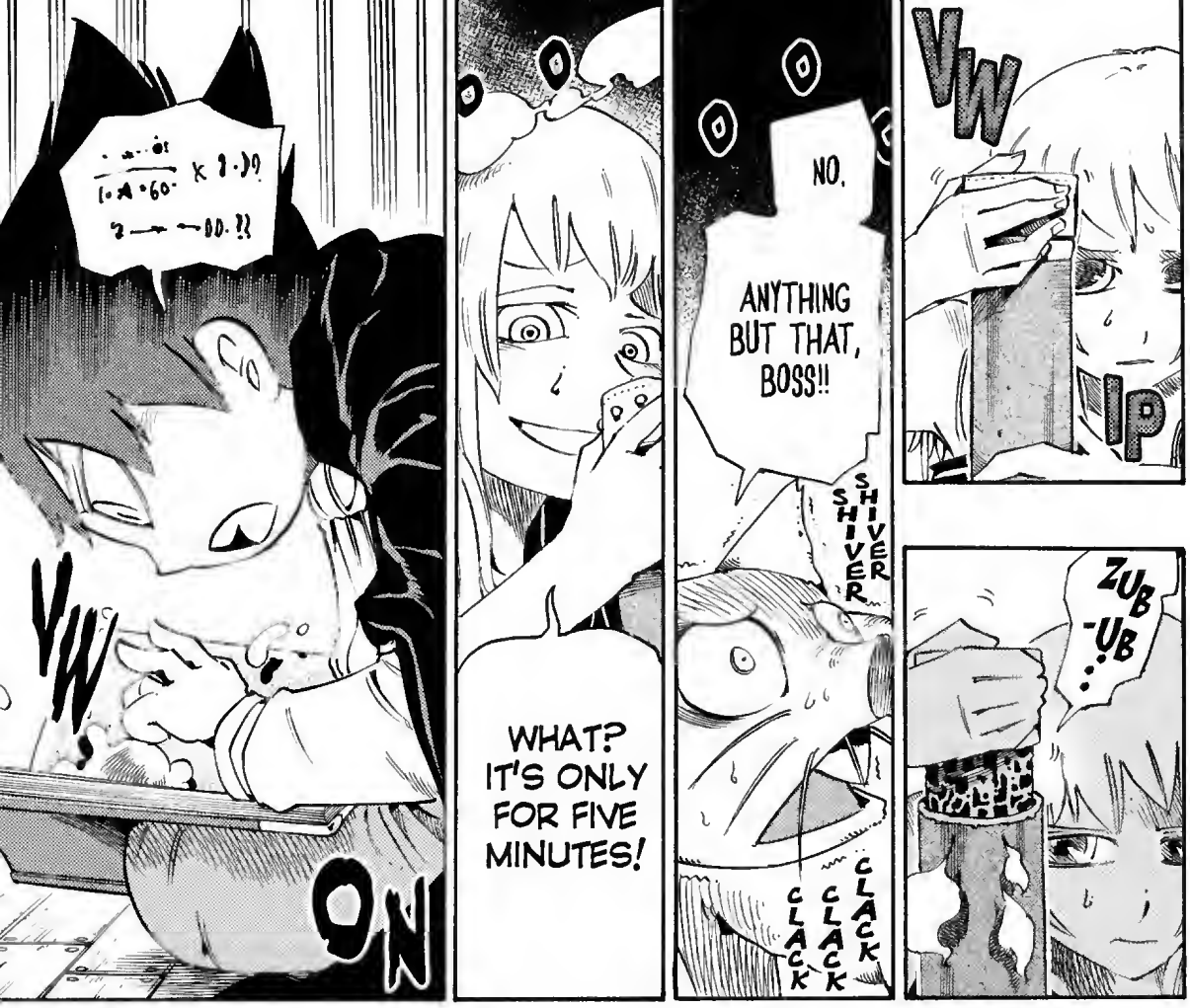

OTHER-WISE, THE STONE WILL DRAIN YOUR TEMPERING ...
... LEAVING YOU A DRIED HUSK!
IT HAS TO TAKE EXACTLY 30 MINUTES!
YOU HAVE TO READ SLOWLY!
THEN READ OUR SOLUTION ALOUD.
BUT HERE'S THE CATCH—


AND WITHOUT MUHYO'S TEMPERING ?!
FIVE MINUTES.
WE HAVE TO HOLD TEEKI OFF FOR 30 MINUTES?!
YOU MEAN WE HAVE TO FIGHT TEEKI?
GASP


JUST GIVE ME FIVE MINUTES.
SHUP
OR GENERALLY USELESS.
LOOK AT YOU— WOUNDED.


SH UP...!!
JUST MAKE SURE MASK-BOY DOESN'T GET IN THE WAY.
THAT'S ALL I NEED.
TOK


NO !!
BOSS ...
WELL, I THINK I KNOW WHAT WE NEED TO DO.
THAT'S MADNESS! YOU'LL DIE!
FIVE MIN-UTES ?!


VW
ON
WHAT? IT'S ONLY FOR FIVE MINUTES!
NO. ANYTHING BUT THAT, BOSS!!
SHIVER SHIVER
CLACK CLACK CLACK
VW
IP
ZUB-UB...


WHAT'S THAT ?!
ROJI!
SO WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT TEEKI?
?!
GRAB
!!
IT'S ALREADY FUSING!
UM...
UH-OH.
IT DIS-SOLVED!


GIVE IT TO ME!
GIVE ME THE STONE!!
ANNOYANCES!
PESTS!
VERMIN!
WHA HGA
WH...?
?!
CHIL-DREN!
OINK!!


ZA A A...
ZUP
WHAT'S THAT...?
TOK
HUH?
AKONIE!
(SERVANT OF EVIL!)
HOW
EKO NIKORO!
(PREPARE YOURSELF!)
MAGIC L


PANT...
ONE THING'S FOR SURE.
THIS IS GONNA BE A LONG FIVE MINUTES.
PANT...
ZZAK
ZZIK
AROKO EKO KORI.
(MY NAME IS IRI.)
—IRI—
CAPTAIN OF THE KNIGHTS BELOW
FSHOOO
NEKOROSHIE KOKO KAMASHIEKO EKO.
(I WILL TAKE THE BODY OF UNRYUSO, AND WITH IT, BRING YOU TO YOUR KNEES.)
RIGHT, UMEKICHI...?
BUT THAT'S FORBIDDEN!
HEE HEE. NOT BAD.
UMEKICHI ...?


TSK TSK. ALL FOR NOTH-ING!
WHAT'S SHE THINKING ?!
ZO
ENVOY POSSES-SION?!
NO!!
VWOOO
NOTHING!
ZAK
...CAN CHANGE ...
NOTHING ...
...DESTINY!!
ZA---